

# The Middlebury Campus

JANUARY 21, 2016 | VOL. 114 NO. 12 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

## Faculty Votes on AAL, Pass/D/Fail

By Philip Bohlman  
News Editor

At the Jan. 15 Plenary Meeting the faculty passed resolutions that reinstated the Pass/D/Fail option, set to expire this year, and changed the cultures and civilizations set of distribution requirements.

The last iteration of Pass/D/Fail (P/D/F) expired on Dec. 31 after a six semester trial period. In new legislation authored by the Education Affairs Committee (EAC) and amended by faculty at the meeting, students will retain two uses of the option, but will now be able to choose whether or not to invoke it in the fourth week of a semester (rather than the second week). None of restrictions on P/D/F will change, and students will draw on their five allocated "non-standard grades," which include high school credits and for-credit internships.

The resolution initially presented at the meeting gave students only one use of P/D/F. The EAC viewed this as a compromise for those faculty opposed to the P/D/F option. Professor of Psychology Jason Arndt, a member of the EAC, and Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott said that the reduction from two to one courses would be interpreted by students as discordant with the College's focus on stress. The amendment passed overwhelmingly in support of two uses of P/D/F.

The new set of cultures and civilizations requirements expands the previous three regional categories to six. For almost 15 years the categories were comparative (CMP), North America (NOR), Europe (EUR) and Africa, Asia and Latin America (AAL) which also included together Middle East, and the Caribbean.

The six new designations are South and Southeast Asia, including the Pacific (SOA); North Asia including China, Korea, Japan and the Asian steppes (NOA); Middle East and North Africa (MDE); Sub-Saharan Africa (SAF); Europe (EUR); The Americas (AMR).

Some faculty at the meeting expressed hesitation over not



President of the College Laurie L. Patton cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of the Anderson Freeman Center.

dividing North, Central and South America. Others felt that the previous NOR designation had problematically privileged North American culture. Others were vocal that any system with such arbitrary regions would conflate incongruous cultures (i.e. Japan and China in NOA) and that it would be the instructor's responsibility to distinguish the studied culture within the course's designation.

Chair of the Student Educational Affairs Committee Jiya Pandya '17 was an original member of Midd Included, the student organization committed to reforming the cultures and civilizations requirement. In the last two years she and other students designed and advocated for new regional requirements.

"Our proposal was by no means perfect, and nor are these categories, yet to me they symbolize not only a change in our College and its growing understanding of the value and respect of all cultures but also a clear sign that student voices truly make a difference in curricular change," Pandya wrote in a Facebook post on Jan. 15.

## AFC Grand Opening Invites Discussion

By Viviana Altamirano  
Senior Writer

Kimberlé Crenshaw, a professor of law at Columbia University and UCLA, filled Mead Chapel last Friday night as the keynote speaker for the grand opening of the Anderson Freeman Resource Center (AFC). Crenshaw's speech was one of many events held over the weekend to celebrate the opening of the new intercultural center on Saturday, Jan. 16.

The opening of the AFC is the culmination of more than a year's worth of effort by students and former Vice President of Affairs and Dean of the College Shirley Collado. The grand opening coincided with the College's second Alumni of Color weekend.

Crenshaw is known for coining the term "intersectionality." Her

talk, titled "Intersectionality Matters: Why We Can't Wait for a Racial Justice Agenda That Centers Us All" highlighted the multiple avenues through which racial and gender oppressions are experienced.

Crenshaw spoke to changes happening on college campuses nationwide. She said: "We are at a moment to transform our society. In some ways, racial discourse has reached a new low with the presidential candidates. But at the same time, we have new forms of social justice agitation that have sprung the conversation back to life."

She also talked about the defenders of Justice Scalia's recent comments on black students' incompetency at elite institutions. "If it is not institutional factors, structural factors, historical factors, that explain inequality, then we are talking about racial differences without talking about racial power, creating a formula for individual and cultural responsibility," she said. "Individuals in their social groups are responsible for their lack of participation in higher education, for the lack of access."

Crenshaw then turned her focus to injustice for women and girls in society. She discussed how critical it is to reverse the cycle of invisibility for women and girls with initiatives such as President Obama's "My Brother's Keeper" which excludes girls and young women of color.

She asked the audience to identify the names of victims of police brutality, revealing that females were mostly unknown. "We don't know who these girls are, because the media doesn't tell you; our leaders don't tell you," she said.

Crenshaw concluded her speech with a plea for racial justice and inclusion. "I can't think of

SEE FREEMAN, PAGE 2

## JOHN DOE DROPS LAWSUIT AGAINST COLLEGE

By Christian Jambora  
News Editor

Legal action in the *John Doe v. Middlebury College* case formally ended on Dec. 21. Doe, the student expelled over a charge of alleged sexual assault, dropped his lawsuit against the College after the two parties reached a settlement.

"The lawsuit has been resolved by the parties and they have agreed that the Plaintiff will complete his education elsewhere," Vice President for Communications and Marketing Bill Burger said this week.

The case against Doe involved an alleged sexual assault that took place while he was studying abroad during the fall 2014 semester at a program run by the School for International Training (SIT). SIT investigated the complaint by a non-Middlebury student and found Doe not responsible in December of that year.

In early January 2015, the alleged victim, anonymously identified as Jane Doe, contacted Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life Karen Guttentag, which ultimately led Middlebury to begin its own investigation. The College said last September that it had concerns about the SIT investigation and adjudication.

"Under its policies, a Middlebury student's off-campus conduct may be subject to Middlebury's disciplinary processes when, among other things, such conduct may represent a threat to the safety of the Middlebury community or any of its members," the College said in a statement at the time. "Middlebury initiated an investigation and adjudication of the student's conduct on that basis and we believe we properly applied our policies in this case."

The College, after conducting its internal investigation through Ellen Coogan, an independent contractor who has investigated sexual misconduct cases on behalf of the College, ultimately found Doe responsible for the assault and, in late August, expelled him. Coogan concluded that John Doe's conduct towards Jane Doe constituted sexual misconduct based off a preponderance of evidence, a decision that was reached by an evaluation of all evidence and her own assessments of credibility in which she was "struck by the consistency of Jane Doe's account."

Doe then filed suit against the College in federal court, claiming his expulsion was "unjust and unlawful," noting that the SIT investigation did not find him responsible for the charge. According to Doe's complaint, the College relied "on SIT's determination to permit [Doe] to return to Middlebury for the spring semester" and did not conduct its own investigation until the alleged victim of the assault had contacted the College. Doe's counsel consisted

SEE DOE, PAGE 2

## MLK TODAY CALLS FOR JUSTICE



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

On Monday, Jan. 8, the Department of Music and Oratory Now presented MLK Today in Mead Chapel. The event featured speakers and performances by the MLK Today Choir and Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown (pictured above).

INSIDE



GOVERNOR SHUMLIN DELIVERS FINAL STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS  
PAGE 4



NINIVE CALEGARI '93 SPEAKS ABOUT VALUE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
PAGE 7



CHICAGO MUSICAL TO LAUNCH ON JAN. 28  
PAGE 13



## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By Nick Garber  
Community Council Correspondent  
& Staff Writer

On Monday, Jan. 12, Community Council held its first meeting of the 2016 Winter Term.

The Council welcomed Maddie Orcutt '16, who discussed The Ribbon Project, an upcoming project centered around the prevention of sexual and relationship violence at the College. Orcutt told the Council that the project grew out of a grant provided to the College several years ago by the Department of Justice, which was intended to enable the College to better address issues of sexual violence.

The Ribbon Project, Orcutt said, is unlike other programs in that it hopes to tailor specific solutions to different groups on campus. "I think it works really well with things like Green Dot and other programming," Orcutt said, "but what we're going to try a little bit differently is to say ... how are you as a body uniquely situated to address the issues of sexual and relationship violence?"

Orcutt elaborated that over the next several weeks, The Ribbon Project will begin discussions with various campus groups, focusing on the perceived causes of sexual violence and how those groups are equipped to address it.

After considering Community Council's potential contributions to The Ribbon Project, the Council discussed potential topics for the remainder of the academic year. In particular, the subject of living wages will be discussed more heavily in the coming weeks, as Council members agreed it was a crucial issue, but one that lacks any simple solution.

At the Council's next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 19, Dining Software Intern Myles Kamisher-Koch '15 initiated a discussion on the sale of energy drinks on campus. According to Kamisher-Koch, many in Dining Services have warmed to the idea of ceasing to sell energy drinks at retail food locations such as Wilson Café, The Grille and Midd Express.

Kamisher-Koch cited "well-publicized scientific literature" documenting the harmful health effects of energy drinks such as Red Bull and 5 Hour Energy. In addition to fostering unhealthy study habits and perpetuating a campus "culture of stress," he said, one study found that "up to 25 percent of current drinkers combine alcoholic beverages with energy drinks" — a combination known to cause severe health problems. Referencing Middlebury Dining Services' pledge to sustain "mind, body and earth," Kamisher-Koch argued that the sale of these products contradicts Dining's overall mission.

Charles Rainey '19 stated that he was wary of Dining Services "controlling what people consume," and asserted that many, such as himself, consume energy drinks "in a way that is responsible." Several others, however, emphasized that energy drinks would continue to be sold as nearby as Sama's Café, and that many fail to realize the negative impact of the products.

The Council then welcomed Michael Geisler, Vice President for Risk and Compliance, who argued for the installation of security cameras in various public spaces around campus. While the Council had discussed the issue during the 2014-15 academic year and ultimately decided against the installation of cameras, Geisler argued that they have the potential to greatly reduce property theft and potentially reduce the risk of assault. Some on the Council were receptive, but others cautioned against the risks of racial profiling and privacy intrusion.

# Speaker, Panel and Tour Accompany Grand Opening of Anderson Freeman Center

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a better time than now to create a new inheritance and a better legacy to foster creating inclusion for everyone. I hope we all lift up in our hearts the possibility of creating racial justice that fulfills the desperate needs of everyone and unfolds to embrace all of us," she said.

The AFC will function as a center for the College community to come together to foster inclusion and education in support of students who have been "historically underrepresented or marginalized in U.S. higher education."

"Meeting alumni who are doing amazing things makes me ask them how they survived. There was a joke at the keynote where Crenshaw was amazed that alumni of color actually came back, because I don't know if I'd come back. But with the alumni here, and the center here, there is a sense of victory," Jenn Ortega '18 said.

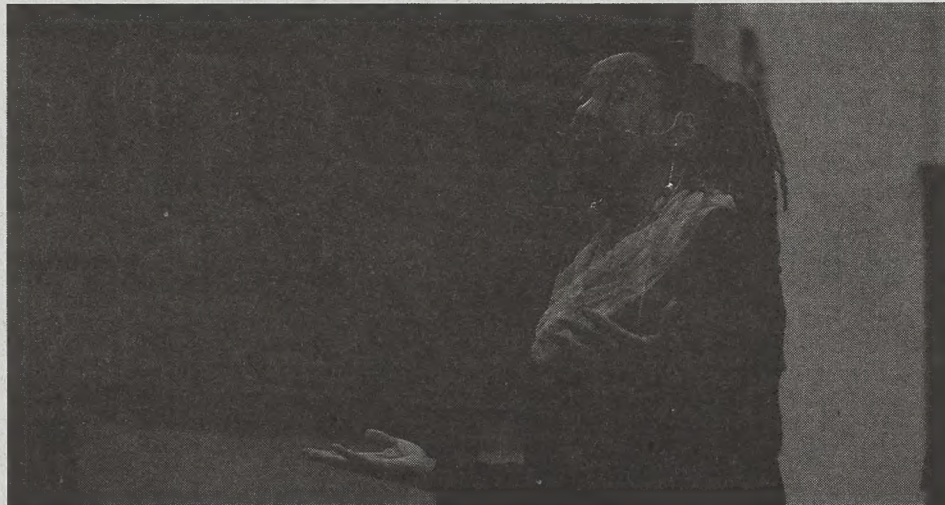
The celebration continued on Saturday afternoon with a panel discussion titled "History of Diversity and Student Activism at Middlebury College." Participants included Collado, Chief Diversity Officer Miguel Fernandez '85, Leroy Nesbitt '82, Alumni of Color and current students.

One of the first discussions addressed themes of collaboration. Nesbitt noted that student activism at the College has been important throughout its history. He said, "Every growth around issues of diversity have come from student activists. It was activism that created the Chellis House, the Jewish Center, Palana House and Coltrane. The spirit of collaboration also speaks to those faculty and administrators who were excited to see the student activism over the years so they could find ways to join in and support."

In 2010 Collado became the first ever woman of color to join the College's administration. Last Jan. Collado left the College to work at Rutgers University-Newark but she has remained dedicated to efforts of diversity. She said, "We wanted to dream up what would it mean to move the work of diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice to the center of a place rather than leaving it at the margins of a campus. Harder questions of policy, are we really talking about all students?"

Some of Collado's turning points included leading a working group of faculty who made the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity possible.

"We felt that we needed a space for something as simple as, but as loaded as, using the word race in the name of a building, in the name of a place at the institution in 2007," Collado said. "The issue of intersectionality was a great



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

From top: Kimberlé Crenshaw, Director of the Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies at Columbia Law School, delivered the keynote speech for the opening of the Anderson Freeman Center; A panel of faculty and students engaged in a discussion of the history of diversity and student activism throughout the College's history.

concern because if we focused on race, some assumed everything else would get lost—gender, class, ability. But we worked hard to have race in the title."

Collado also spoke about inclusion programs on campus led by students such as the First Generation Peer Mentoring Program.

"What also emerged were white students who cared, vocal about their curriculum and faculty not being as diverse as the student body, alongside, and sometimes separate, from students of color," she said.

"There was amazing visibility in that the administration realized this is no longer an issue for just students of color, and this is going to hit us in the face repeatedly because the demographics of this nation are changing," she added.

The dedication was followed by a ribbon cutting by President Laurie Patton. Associate Professor of History William

Hart then gave a talk titled "To 'engraved her [Middlebury College] an imperishable name ... with honor': Martin Henry Freeman 1849, Mary Annette Anderson 1899, and the Challenges of Early Diversity at Middlebury College." Anderson was the first woman of color to graduate from the College and Freeman was the first African American college president in U.S. history.

Fernandez finds the AFC playing an essential part in talking, processing and making a plan of action. "Some people say we shouldn't have a multicultural center because it separates. But collaboration is possible in that center. We live in a racist society and we need to think of our institutions. Students who felt they had no space on campus opened our eyes."

Roberto Lint Sagarena, director of the AFC, called it a day of celebration, and a day of awareness. "The center is only as powerful as the community," he said.

## DOE, COLLEGE REACH SETTLEMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of Lisa B. Shelkrot of Langrock, Sperry & Wool LLP in Burlington, VT, and Monica R. Shah and Naomi R. Shatz of Salkind Duncan & Bernstein LLP in Boston, Mass.

On Sept. 16, the same day classes began for the fall semester, U.S. District Court Judge J. Garvan Murtha issued a preliminary injunction ordering the College to re-enroll Doe while the legal proceedings continued, ruling that Doe would suffer irreparable harm if he were to win the lawsuit but be prevented from accepting a job offer because he had not been allowed to complete his courses and graduate. Murtha's decision sparked public demonstrations on campus by students dissatisfied with the ruling and led students to create a go/doe link and a social media campaign with the tagline, "Doe must go." The College later filed an appeal to reverse Murtha's order.

The College declined to comment on details of the settlement of the lawsuit, including whether he ultimately will receive a Middlebury College diploma or a degree from another institution once he receives the credits needed to graduate.

"It is difficult to say what I feel about the Doe settlement because the exact terms of his settlement with the College remain unknown," said Maddie Orcutt '16. "I hope that the survivor in this case, Jane, knows that there are

students at Middlebury who were deeply unsettled by John's actions to file civilly. I hope that Jane knows that even if she didn't have a voice [in the case], there are students on this campus who believe her and stand with her."

"My hope is that the recent developments in the John Doe case allow those who felt unsafe this past semester to feel more comfortable on Middlebury's campus," said Kyra Gray '17, who acts as co-director for sexual and relationship respect on the Student Government Association (SGA) Cabinet.

According to administrators, the case has prompted the College to review the wording of its sexual assault policies governing Middlebury students studying abroad.

"It's not uncommon for us to make revisions to our policies and we've done so every year in the last few years," Burger said. "Policies and regulations governing how institutions of higher education should handle allegations of sexual assault change often, as do practices by other colleges and universities that are determined to do the best job they can investigating and adjudicating these cases. We always try to learn and adjust our practices based on our experiences."

John Doe did not respond to our request for comment. Doe's counsel, Lisa B. Shelkrot, declined to comment on the specifics of the settlement.

## 338 Admitted Early for 2020

By Eliza Teach  
News Editor

The College notified 338 new students of their early admission to the Class of 2020 via an online portal on Dec. 5. Mailed letters were sent in the next week. The students were chosen from an overall application pool of 636 applicants. This is an increase from the 280 students offered early admission from the preceding year's early decision pool of 667 applicants.

320 of the newly accepted students will enroll in the fall of 2016, while 18 were offered admission under the February Admissions Program and will begin in Feb. 2017. Out of the total applicant pool, 74 students were deferred and 221 students were denied. An early decision acceptance is binding.

Representing 49% of the class of 2020, this early decision class hails from 34 states, Washington D.C. and 13 different countries. According to Greg Buckles, Dean of Admissions, 25 percent of those admitted are students of color. This is the highest percentage of students of color admitted through early decision in the College's history.



## Devalued Canadian Dollar Threatens Vermont Tourism

By Sarah Koenigsberg  
Local Editor

The value of the Canadian dollar (CAD), has plummeted to its lowest level in 13 years. Worth only \$.69 U.S., the devaluing of the currency poses a threat to Vermont businesses that depend on Canadian customers, particularly those in the northern part of the state.

The weakening currency resulted from dropping oil prices caused by a global supply glut. The last time the CAD was this low was between 1998 and 2003, when crude oil was similarly cheap.

The duration of the loonie's decline is uncertain. Douglas Porter, chief economist at BMO Financial Group, projects that the currency will continue to decline. "The currency is likely to remain under downward pressure until oil prices bottom out, which we don't see happening until [the second quarter]."

This trend has left Vermont business-owners small and large alike worried about the toll it will take on their profits from Canadian customers.

Jay Peak Resorts, positioned in Vermont along the international border, draws approximately half of its guests from Canada. Local businesses in Newport, a small community less than 10 miles from the border, fly Canadian flags and post French signs to welcome Canadian clients, as they are an important part of the economy in this region.

Even as far south as Burlington, shop-owners are concerned about losing Canadian tourists. An estimated 15% of Church Street shoppers hail from Canada. "Being close to the border is great.

There's no question about it," said Ron Redmond, executive director of the Church Street Marketplace.

Burlington International Airport has been pushing to increase Canadian visitors by providing a daily bus to Québec and French signage. Yet fewer and fewer Canadian license plates have been spotted in the airport parking lots.

Shop-keepers in these areas have reported receiving fewer Canadian customers since the Canadian dollar slipped below that of the U.S.

"We're not seeing as many tourists from Canada," said Lynne Bertrand, executive director of Vermont's North Country Chamber of Commerce.

Canadian citizens themselves have admitted to making fewer trips across the border to run errands.

**"We're not seeing as many tourists from Canada."**

LYNNE BERTRAND

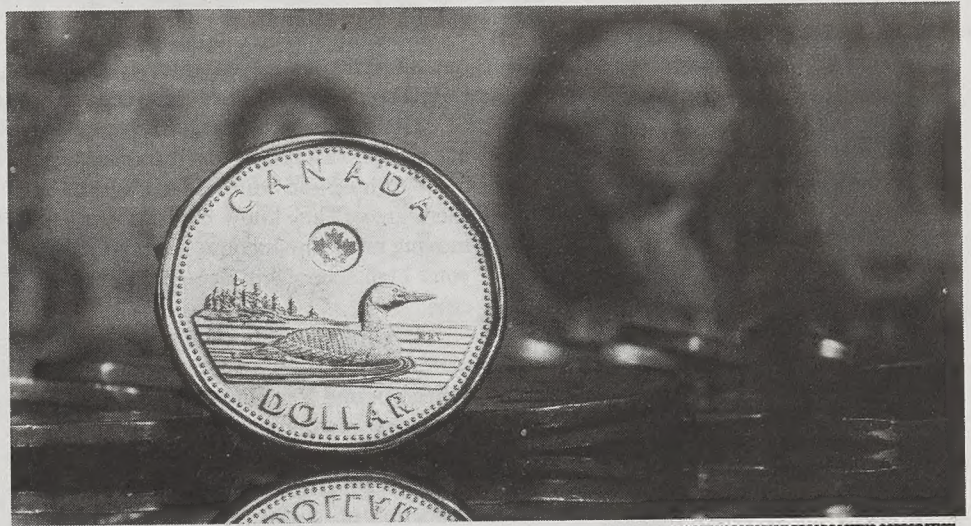
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VERMONT'S NORTH COUNTRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"A lot of the groceries I would normally buy, I don't," admitted one resident of Stanstead Québec, who lived only 15 minutes away from Newport. According to the resident, her neighbors are adopting similar shopping habits.

"Buying U.S. money with Canadian money is simply starting to cost too much," Canadian blogger James Morgan wrote.

Yet another concern is that the relative strength of the U.S. dollar will inspire U.S. customers to do more business on the Canadian side of the border.

Businesses in northern regions of the state have resisted changing their policy on the CAD, but the practice has become unfeasible. Historically, business owners have accepted the CAD because exchanging it for the U.S. dollar was expensive and inconvenient for visiting Canadians. How-



COURTESY CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

This Canadian coin - known as a loonie - has devalued to the lowest level in 13 years.

ever, many no longer accept the declining CAD, as it is hurting their businesses. have even implemented special promotions - such as allowing customers to pay for a portion of the bill with the CAD, or accepting the currency for a limited period of time.

"We were losing money at it," said Amrita Parry, manager of the Newport Natural Market and Café. Jay Peak Resorts begrudgingly stopped accepting loonies recently after 40 years of doing so.

"We've really prided ourselves in taking the Canadian dollar at par to the American dollar - resort wide," said Guest Services Manager Jorge Garcia.

Earlier in 2015, CEO of the resorts Bill Stenger expressed steadfastness in parity, suggesting that changing lift tickets for Canadians would prompt them to ski in their own country. In an attempt to retain Canadian customers, businesses

**"Buying U.S. money with Canadian money is simply starting to cost too much."**

JAMES MORGAN

CANADIAN BLOGGER

"There are still some things I'll buy in the U.S. regardless of how much it costs," Morgan concluded in one blog post. "We're all still going to cross the border ... no matter how lame our loonie is."

## Chief del Pozo Confronts Opiate Crisis

By Rebecca Walker  
Staff Writer

Burlington Police Chief Brandon del Pozo recently outlined his strategy to combat the rising opiate crisis that has gained attention both within Vermont and nationally. Various gangs have formed active drug networks in Burlington, causing concern for public health and safety. The mayor of Burlington, Miro Weinberger, has decided to give the city police the power necessary to fight drug trafficking and crimes linked to the rising tide of opiate addiction.

"Through sustained commitment to on-the-ground community policing and better coordination among all law enforcement and public health agencies engaged in addressing opiate abuse, we will turn back this trend," Weinberger told the *Burlington Free Press*.

Del Pozo expressed commitment to these ideals. In an effort to rid Vermont of opiate problems, he hopes to devote resources to street-level community policing and encourage treatment for addicts rather than jail time. In addition, del Pozo believes it would be beneficial to direct the majority of attention towards the mid and high-level drug dealers and traffickers instead of focusing on lower level users and dealers.

"We're not trying to arrest our way out of this problem. We're not trying to saddle small-time users with criminal

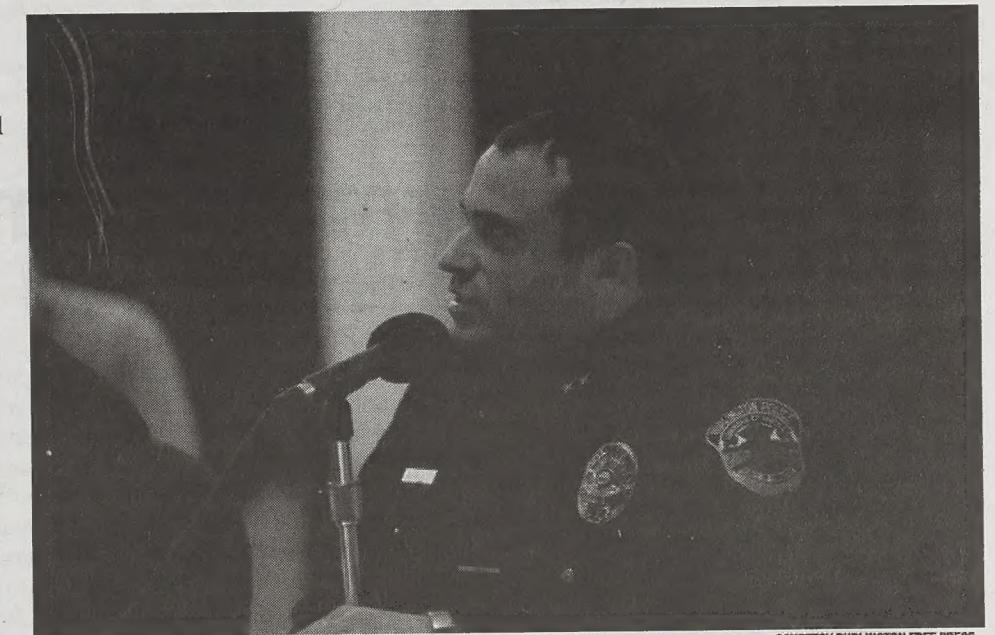
records," del Pozo said.

In order to achieve these goals, del Pozo plans to hire a full force of one hundred officers. He advocated increasing foot patrols and bike controls, as well as stopping as many street drug deals as possible. Additionally, del Pozo supports an approach that involves differentiating between those who are selling drugs for profit and those who are selling drugs to further endorse their addictions. He has also stated that he is interested in offering amnesty to opiate addicts who are willing and able to approach the police for help with their situation.

In conjunction with police efforts, doctors in Vermont will be advised to prescribe with caution, as the opiate addiction problem is partially attributed to doctors who over-prescribe painkillers. Vermont Health Commissioner Harry Chen and UVM Medical Center CEO John Brumstead will work alongside del Pozo to increase the resources available for those with opiate addictions.

The heavy focus of resources, time, and effort to combat opiate abuse is rooted in a human toll: drug overdose calls in Burlington rose from 34 in the past three years to 69 in 2015. Two drug-related shootings in Burlington resulted in fatalities within the past year.

Opiate addiction has also increased the number of crimes and thefts to occur around Burlington. When compared to rates from 2012 to 2014, robberies have



COURTESY BURLINGTON FREE PRESS

Burlington Police Chief Brandon del Pozo discusses combatting opiate addiction.

risen 31 percent, assaults 22 percent, and retail theft 14 percent. Opiate addiction has proven especially prominent in the Old North End of Burlington.

Contributing even further to the problem, the prominence of the drug market has pushed more women towards prostitution and fueled the market for firearms in Vermont. Del Pozo noted that he is especially disturbed and concerned about the element of sex trafficking that accompanies the drug trade.

Unfortunately, Vermont will continue to be a hot spot for drugs if action is not

taken. Drug dealers from out of state often prefer to sell them in Vermont, as opposed to major cities, because their wares are significantly more profitable when they constitute a significant portion of the market.

However, del Pozo remains confident that the situation in Burlington can be solved, and it is not yet outside the realm of police and governmental control.

"It's not an overall tidal wave problem. It's growing and it brings violence, but it's manageable for a city this size," del Pozo said.

**"We're not trying to arrest our way out of this problem. We're not trying to saddle small-time users with criminal records,"**

BRANDON DEL POZO

BURLINGTON POLICE CHIEF



# Shumlin Delivers Final State of State Address

By Harry Cramer  
Local Editor

On January 7, Governor of Vermont Peter Shumlin delivered his sixth and final State of the State address, in which he reflected on his successes in office — and the challenges that lie ahead for Vermont. Shumlin has elected not to run in the upcoming gubernatorial election, ending his five year stretch as governor.

In the hourlong address, Shumlin maintained a proud and defiant tone.

"We started at the trough of the Great Recession, unsure whether we'd be able to build back," he said. "Soon after, Irene struck. We were down and we got knocked down again. But we stood back up."

In the beginning of his speech, Shumlin outlined what he saw as the most important goals for the state: a dynamic economy, an improved education system, a renewable energy policy, a reformed criminal justice system, and affordable and effective health care statewide.

Of these issues, Shumlin first addressed the economy. "We added 17,600 new jobs in the last five years," he began, "and have grown per capita incomes at or above the national rate every year I have been Governor. That has never happened in Vermont's history."

Shumlin also described an "agricultural renaissance" that has accounted for 4,400 new jobs in Vermont.

"In the past two years," he said, "I've had the privilege of moving the Best Cheese in America award from one Vermont farm to another Vermont farm. Take that Wisconsin."

Shumlin warned, however, that without effective education reform, this economic recovery could be hindered.

The biggest problem for most employers, claimed Shumlin, was their inability to find "trained and educated workers to help them grow. They know that our success in moving more low-income Vermont kids beyond high school will determine their success."

Accordingly, Shumlin's new budget will include a grant of 250 dollars to every college-bound Vermonter, and 500 dollars for every low-income college-bound student.

The governor also announced a new education program, called Step Up, which will fund a semester of free courses and support services for first generation and low income students.

Shumlin also warned that failing to address climate change could threaten to derail this economic recovery.

"The most tropical Christmas in memory," he warned, "reminds us that climate change threatens the Vermont we love, from our ski season to our lakes. That's why we are working so hard to move to green, clean renewable energy that is creating jobs, reducing power rates and putting money in Vermonters pockets while we do it."

PETER SHUMLIN  
GOVERNOR OF VT

That Vermont has more clean energy jobs per capita than any other state, and solar power has replaced nuclear as the primary energy provider during peak energy hours, are two facts that Shumlin pointed to as indicators of progress.

Yet Shumlin pushed the envelope further, urging legislators to follow California's lead and send him a divestiture bill.

"[Pollution] sickens our children, creates acid rain, dumps mercury on our forests and in our lakes and increases greenhouse gas emissions," Shumlin said.

In what he described as "a page right out of big tobacco," Shumlin slammed ExxonMobil for their complicity in climate change and their efforts to obscure the truth.

"Vermont should not wait to rid ourselves of ExxonMobil stock," he said. "It has been clearly documented that since the 1980's, ExxonMobil's own scientists have long known about the dangers of global warming, and chose to conceal that from the public."

Shumlin then addressed opiate addiction in Vermont, a topic to which he dedicated his entire 2014 State of the State address. At the time, he said that opiate addiction was a threat to Vermonters' very way of life.

Shumlin launched a closing salvo at the FDA, which he described as the very root of the problem: "In 2010, we prescribed enough OxyContin to keep every adult in America high for an entire month; by 2012 we issued enough prescriptions to give every American adult their own personal bottle of pills ... The \$11 billion-dollar a year opiate industry in America knows no shame."

In response to this overprescription, Shumlin sought to set a limit at the number of pills patients could bring home after a procedure, to expand 'take back programs' to reobtain painkillers, and to prevent addicts from acquiring drugs outside state lines.

Next, Shumlin widened his attack to include not only the FDA and painkillers, but the illegality of marijuana. Citing the state's relative success in regulating medi-

cal marijuana, Shumlin advocated to end the "era of prohibition that is currently failing us so miserably."

Shumlin explained that he would insist that five things must occur if he were to sign a bill legalizing marijuana. They include finding a way to keep the drugs out of the hands of underage kids, a tax low enough to still wipe out illicit drug networks, using the revenue from legalization to expand treatment programs, increasing law-enforcement capabilities vis-a-vis impaired drivers, and a temporary ban on edibles.

PETER SHUMLIN  
GOVERNOR OF VT

"I will work with you," Shumlin declared, "to craft the right bill that thoughtfully and carefully eliminates the era of prohibition that is currently failing us so miserably."

Shumlin used his concluding remarks to address a moral issue facing the state: the acceptance of Syrian refugees.

"I believe Vermont must not abandon its long heritage of being a welcoming state to those who are escaping unimaginable horror to seek a better life," he said.

"We are blessed to live in a state where so many reject fear and hatred and I pledge to continue to work together with President Obama, our refugee resettlement community, clergy, volunteers, and our mayors to make our state a beacon of hope and hospitality to Muslims, to our Syrian brothers and sisters, and to all who seek to build a better life right here in Vermont."

He then thanked the Vermont people for the opportunity to serve as governor, and stepped back from the podium.

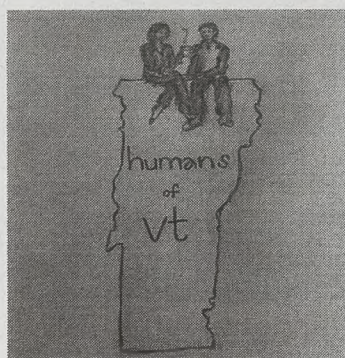
**"The \$11 billion dollar-a-year opiate industry in America knows no shame."**

**"I believe Vermont must not abandon its long heritage of being a welcoming state to those who are escaping unimaginable horror to see better life."**

PETER SHUMLIN  
GOVERNOR OF VT

## Humans of Vermont: Coming Out and Listening In

By Wendy Walcott  
Contributing Writer



When we stopped Ansel to talk in Sandy's Bakery in Rochester, a look of recognition came across his face. He knew us — or knew of Humans of Vermont, that is. "Wow, I love you guys," he gushed. Somewhat taken aback by our first fan, we thanked him as we sat down in the adjacent red arm chairs. "We appreciate the support," I said. "You know, I do too," Ansel replied. He expanded on how the HoVT project has been meaningful to him by providing a more open outlook on the place that he lives.

He bubbled over with enthusiasm, gripping his coffee cup and smoothing out his skirt. Ansel is driven by social justice. "Queer and trans activism," he said, "but I'll talk to anybody and everybody about whatever their struggle is." He said that there isn't as much activism in Vermont as he would like, but that there are pockets of people he has found

that feel passionately about various local causes. He speaks to farmworkers, finds peers at church, talks to friends of friends of those who are queer and of various backgrounds. "I know everybody, goddamnit," he said. "I know everybody."

As we both lean into the conversation, Ansel unfolds bits and pieces of his identity to us through the story of his coming out. "You have to come out as queer, you can't just be queer one day. I was like, 'Parents, I want to tell y'all something.' And then I came downstairs in a skirt and said, 'I feel like a girl!' And they said, 'You're bi...sexual?' And I said 'No, thank you!'" He laughed confidently, encouraging us to see humor in a difficult situation. Ansel provided various reading material for his parents. He explained that though he doesn't mind which pronoun people use to describe him, it is necessary to talk these ideas through, given a gap of understanding.

"We were talking for a good year or so about my transition, and then we got down to it, and it was like, I'm queer, in all forms. Masculinity and femininity are interesting, but they are not the anchors that my parents were holding to. My parents and my relationship got strained, and so I moved out. It's an ongoing thing ... it's awkward. Coming out is interesting."

The buzz of the coffee maker and tea-table small talk filled a moment of silence. Through the process, Ansel has



Ansel provided his parents with reading material on his sexuality to help them understand.

begun to learn what he needs. "Self-care," he said. He's currently at a mental health retreat, finding space, figuring a few things out. "I don't know," Ansel paused, "I need pizza. That's what I need."

"I think everyone needs pizza!" We laughed, reclining in our chairs. Ansel sipped the last bit of warmth from his cup. We thanked him for his willing-

ness to share, and saw the space fill with openness and compassion. Thinking of how we had both thanked each other for the support, I realized that when you ask and share, you give to both yourself and the person cross-legged next to you; that when you're willing to listen and learn, no matter the topic, there develops a space of receptivity that is sometimes difficult to find.



# OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

## Liberating the Liberal Arts

Last Friday, the Middlebury faculty voted to indefinitely renew the Pass/D/Fail program. The program permits students to take two courses for college credit, receiving a "Pass," D or "Fail" in lieu of a traditional grade.

### EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

The faculty also extended the deadline to invoke the Pass/D/Fail option — students now have four weeks to decide instead of two. This gives stu-

dents more time to experience a class and complete more graded assignments before

making their choice.

The editorial board commends the faculty for taking student input into consideration and voting in favor of the Pass/D/Fail program. Middlebury students, generally speaking, are risk averse. Many students are planning on attending graduate school, applying for fellowships and seeking jobs that value high GPAs. Even without these incentives, Middlebury students are typically high achievers and are naturally compelled to seek high grades, with no purpose beyond the pride of achieving Magna Cum Laude come graduation day. The Pass/D/Fail option encourages students to leave their

comfort zones and incentivizes academic risk-taking, giving students the chance to explore a topic they are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with. The liberal arts education is characterized by both depth and breadth, and the Pass/D/Fail option allows students to broaden their horizons without fear of falling below their own standards. Some faculty members expressed concern about the program. Many professors are worried that students will use Pass/D/Fail to "game the system" in order to protect their high GPAs without having to do as much work. The most frequent grade for stu-

dents who invoked Pass/D/Fail is a B, demonstrating that the performance of Pass/D/Fail students is typically average. We understand the weariness amongst some faculty over a GPA-driven student body. However, given that we attend a competitive institution of higher education where risk-aversion is both inherent and rewarded, we do not see how the presence or absence of Pass/D/Fail will change the culture. Students gravitate toward academic environments where they are comfortable and feel successful. Pass/D/Fail allows students to feel a similar level of comfort in an unfamiliar discipline. Two Pass/D/Fail classes taken outside of one's overscheduled, overcommitted Middlebury students have that extra time and energy. The Pass/D/Fail option gives students the chance to pursue a subject that would normally require a disproportionate percentage of their attention. This is not laziness; rather, it is time management, a critical skill that college does and ought to teach us. We concede that perhaps some students are "gaming the system" by putting less effort into a class that they would ordinarily take for a grade. However, this does not diminish the importance of having the option for students to take advantage of opportunities they would not otherwise seek out. The benefits, in our opinion, outweigh the possible costs to academic rigor.

While extending Pass/D/Fail is a progressive step in encouraging exploration and reducing stress, we can continue to look to our peer institutions for inspiration. Other colleges and universities have taken a more lenient approach to Pass/D/Fail. Students at Williams College, often ranked the most academically rigorous of the NESCAC schools, may take up to three courses on a Pass/Fail basis and have up to the tenth week of the semester to decide. Bowdoin allows students to take up to four Pass/D/Fail courses and have up to the sixth week of classes. Harvard University does not place a specific limit on the number of pass/fail classes students can take, though they cannot be used to satisfy any requirements. Yale has a similar policy to Harvard, and even allows students who invoked Pass/Fail to switch back to a letter grade until shortly after midterms if they find themselves doing better than anticipated. These examples should quell any fears that expanding Pass/Fail comes at the expense of academic integrity.

We the students must challenge ourselves by fully and authentically using the Pass/D/Fail option. A Political Science major who uses Pass/D/Fail to take a difficult History course has, perhaps, not fully utilized this opportunity. We encourage students to step outside their comfort zones and take courses that will push them to think differently. Pass/D/Fail is an opportunity for English students to study Computer Science and Biology majors to study Classics. We ought to use the Pass/D/Fail option as productively as we can. There are 34 other chances to play it safe at Middlebury. Let's take this one risk and use it to add unforeseen value to our education.

The Middlebury Campus

### EDITORIAL BOARD

#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Claire Abbadi

#### MANAGING EDITOR

Leah Lavigne

#### BUSINESS MANAGER

Wyatt French

#### NEWS EDITORS

Christian Jambora, Eliza Teach, Phil Bohlman, Ellie Reinhardt

#### OPINIONS EDITORS

Kate Hamilton, Sara Hodgkins, Francesca Haass, Lauren Alper, Nina Colombotos

#### SPORTS EDITORS

Joe MacDonald, Alex Morris, Emily Bustard, Andrew Rigas, Will Case, Remo Plunkett

#### LOCAL EDITORS

Harry Cramer, Sarah Koenigsberg

#### FEATURES EDITORS

Emilie Munson, Ethan Brady, Henry Burnett, Renee Chang

#### ARTS AND SCIENCE EDITORS

Elizabeth Zhou, Toby Aicher, Oakley Haight

#### PHOTOS EDITORS

Rachel Frank, Anahi Naranjo, Michael O'Hara, Anthea Viragh, Michael Borenstein

#### DESIGN EDITOR

Emma Hatheway, Julia Hatheway

#### CARTOON EDITOR

Boone McCoy-Crisp

#### ONLINE EDITORS

Maggie Cochrane, Pyone Aye

#### COPY EDITOR

Sarah Sicular

#### THE CAMPUS VOICE HOST

Nathaniel Wiener

#### SOCIAL MEDIA EDITORS

Nathaniel Wiener, Pyone Aye

The Opinions pages of The Middlebury Campus provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com). To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.



JENA RITCHEY

comfort zones and incentivizes academic risk-taking, giving students the chance to explore a topic they are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with. The liberal arts education is characterized by both depth and breadth, and the Pass/D/Fail option allows students to broaden their horizons without fear of falling below their own standards.

Some faculty members expressed concern about the program. Many professors are worried that students will use Pass/D/Fail to "game the system" in order to protect their high GPAs without having to do as much work. The most frequent grade for stu-

major and distribution requirements will not significantly affect a student's ability to graduate with honors. Two of the 36 credits needed to graduate from Middlebury should permissibly become an opportunity for risk and exploration.

Our time is both valuable and finite. Taking a course Pass/D/Fail allows students to test out a new interest without taking on too much additional stress or compromising their focus on their major. If he or she has the time, a student may be able to do perfectly well in a course outside of his or her major or area of interest. But rarely do

## SYRIA THROUGH THE EYES OF AN ARAB JORDANIAN

As the New Year arrived, the Syrian Crisis entered the fifth year of its genesis. With a UN estimate of 6.5 million displaced within Syria and 3 million fleeing refugees, no near end is in sight. Older teenagers and adults, however, reminisce to a time of malaise when the Jordanian capital (Amman) was a mere two hours' drive from the Syrian borders. It was not

### READER OP-ED

Sammy Abdulrahim '19  
is from Jordan

other nationalities to spend their week-ends in Syria exploring its farmlands, visiting its old shops or touring its archaic landmarks. My own family used to take road trips to Syria, even reaching Turkey. These trips seem incongruous now considering the infeasibility of crossing a war torn country.

Nonetheless, failing tourism is the smallest of concerns right now. I grew up in a Jordan that had a population of roughly 5.5 million people, and even then the country had little in the way of natural resources to support its growth. In point of fact, Jordan is now the world's second water-poorest country. The scarcity of resources once obtained from Egypt and Syria falter the country's progression and stop it from reaching its sought after goal of self-dependence. The population of Jordan could not sustain itself even before the crisis commenced. Over the last five

years, 1.5 million Syrian refugees fled to Jordan causing a twenty-five percent influx in the small country's population. In 2016, one in three inhabitants of Jordan is a refugee including Palestinians, Syrians, Iraqis, Libyans and Yemenis among other nationalities. Not only are these refugees creating a heavy demographic burden, the conditions the refugees themselves live in are beyond miserable. Many of the refugees arrive with serious medical conditions, thus occupying much needed hospital beds. Moreover, most of the refugees are hauled into refugee camps where the youth and adults cannot work but have to sustain their families, thus constraining them within a legal state of limbo.

Most famed among these camps is the notorious Zaatari refugee camp located in the Mafraq Governorate of Jordan. The camp's inhabiting populous suffers repeatedly from the lack of sufficient food supplies and better accommodation. And without an official police force of sorts, crimes of violence, drug dealing and prostitution have gradually risen. In addition, the geography of Mafraq has not helped. An open desert, Zaatari has suffered over the years from heat waves, winter snows and severe rain floods that have led to multiple evacuations. The refugee camp now houses 80,000 refugees making it the fourth largest city in the country. And although living conditions are well below acceptable, life there is beginning to stabilize. According to the Telegraph the camp has, "a pizza delivery

service, a coffee shop selling shisha and a street named Champs-Elysée." This newly found stability may seem like a ray of hope for the Syrian refugees, but personal and mutual experience proves otherwise. My own family is originally a Palestinian refugee family that fled to Jordan after the Palestinian-Israeli conflict erupted in 1948. Many family members lived in one of twelve Palestinian refugee camps that were set up by the UNRWA. These camps, like every other camp established in the Middle East, were intended to be a temporary solution until the refugees could return home or were given citizenship or residency. In reality, these camps are now bustling urban slums and ghettos that have transformed into permanent cities and districts in their own rights. The fear lies in the transformation of Zaatari into one of these camps. With no end in sight to the growth of the camp or the crisis itself, the situation may seem helpless from where we stand as college students.

But what if each one of us Middlebury students can help? There have been many college-based organizations like Amnesty International aimed at helping these refugees. But to create a bigger impact, we have launched a petition (Go/Refuge), in collaboration with Jordan University, aimed at creating a minimum quota of refugees to be admitted to Middlebury College. With every extra signature we get, we are one step closer to helping those in need even in our Vermont remoteness.



## A Call for Empathy

I am ashamed.

Part of me got swept away with the media portrayal of refugees coming into Europe. It all scared me. The hundreds of thousands

### READER OP-ED

**Sophie Hudson '17** is from London, England

crossing the Mediterranean at night, sleeping rough on the streets, trying to get into Britain by sneaking onto the back of trucks or walking the channel tunnel. I was glad to be getting away from it.

Immigration into and around Europe is relatively common, reflected in the diversity seen in London, which I call home. Yet, in Britain, the media constantly seems to tell us that immigration is bad and that immigrants are taking our jobs, our houses and are the root cause of all the bad in society. The refugee crisis — and the subsequent influx of immigrants — is a unprecedented crisis in Europe. 12 million Syrians have fled their homes; men, women and children were

forced to leave, not out of choice, but desperation. They are fleeing for their lives in extraordinary numbers. They have nowhere to go, but with increased drone strikes from the United States, Russia, United Kingdom and other European countries — as well as the rise of ISIS and President Assad's brutal regime — Syria is no longer a place they can stay if they want to survive.

Most end up in camps across the Middle East and Europe, such as the "Calais Jungle." That is the one I hear most about. There are over 6,000 migrants living in one place, with little water, no electricity and limited medical help. The jungle continues to expand with the influx from Syria, Afghanistan and other Middle Eastern countries, all in the hope of entering the United Kingdom.

What the mass media portrayal has failed to notice is that these refugees are individuals.

How bad must it be — to spend all the money you have and more — to flee your home in the dead of night, knowing that over 3,700 people have died doing the same

journey? Yet 920,000 did that exact thing between January and November of last year. You have nowhere to go once you reach mainland Europe; you have no status in Europe. You may have been a doctor or a teacher in Syria, but in Europe — as a refugee — that means nothing. I cannot even imagine studying for so long to be told that my education was worthless, or that I couldn't continue studying or working.

I no longer understand people's hesitation to accept Syrian refugees. We need to help and support them in any way we can. People fear those they don't know. So we need to get to know these refugees. These people. Understand their motivations and their desperation. Many are just like us. They are trying to study, trying to learn, trying to create a life for themselves. We must help foster that or a country's generation of ideas and talent will be wasted. I urge you to look up 'Humans of New York.' Photojournalist Brandon Stanton follows the story of 12 families who have been given asylum in the United States. You will understand the stories, the people behind the

figures and statistics and why they had to flee. Reading it was one of the most humbling experiences.

I am embarrassed because I feel like the world should be doing more. We are bombing Syria, so we need to help those who have had to run from the bombs. On Dec. 16, the British Prime Minister proudly stated that the first 1,000 Syrian refugees have now arrived in the United Kingdom. I am sorry but that is shameful. One thousand people. 12 million have fled Syria. But well done Britain, we allowed 1000 people into Britain.

I signed the petition at Go/Refuge because I want to do more to help these people. And I think we should do whatever we can. We are privileged. We get to enjoy a brilliant education. I have the opportunity to study at Middlebury for a year. My education is one of the most important things to me, as it is for so many Syrian refugees. But that has been put on hold. I truly believe if we can help them to continue their education, we will make a difference.

## Standing with Syrians

Terrorists are attacking America and they are winning. There's a certain image people think of when they read "terrorist." However, I was not thinking of Osama Bin Laden or ISIS, although they are certainly terrorists. I

### READER OP-ED

**Rebecca Duras '19** is from Little Neck, NY

was thinking of people like Mr. Donald Trump. Obviously, Donald Trump is not quite as evil as ISIS. He has not personally murdered anyone (that I know of). However, the hateful, prejudiced rhetoric he and others like him spew is calculated to inspire xenophobia. Those that vehemently oppose migration (and let's call them what they really are: racists) may not personally pick up guns and kill people, but they incite others to

do so. It has been less than a year since the Chapel Hill shooting, but anti-Muslim and anti-refugee sentiment has only grown since then and no attempts have been made to curb this domestic terrorism. Although the two kinds of terrorists I mentioned claim to oppose each other, they have a common goal: to incite terror and hatred into the global population until we are all afraid of our neighbors because they are a different color than us or follow a different religion than we do. Given recent anti-refugee sentiment that is sweeping America, it is clear that the terrorists are winning. By refusing to admit helpless children and other people that have been brutalized by a civil war into our country, we are showing that the terrorists have won. Despite our bluster and our military might, we are

scared. We have been frightened into abandoning the lofty principles of equality and opportunity America claims to have been built on. By virtue of its status as a liberal arts school, Middlebury is a natural enemy of terrorists. Here, we prefer the pursuit of knowledge to ignorance, acceptance to fear and a global outlook to close mindedness. Accepting Syrian refugees into our community would not only provide students whose opportunity to learn has been brutally taken away with a place to continue their studies. It would send a strong message to terrorists of all kinds: you are wrong. You are weak. We refuse to be cowed by your clumsy demonstrations of violence into abandoning our principles. If we have the power to send that message, we should. There is also a more

selfish reason to bring Syrian refugees to Middlebury. In order to promote the diverse learning community promised by the mission statement, the voices of Syrian refugees would provide a welcome addition to our discussions. It is easy to feel stuck in the college bubble and disconnected from current events because we are privileged in that they do not directly affect our lives. Our discussions come from privilege, and the inclusion of refugee students would provide a welcome new perspective. Here at Middlebury, we truly believe that education with an international perspective is vital to survive in the 21st century and that we can learn from each other, especially when we come from different backgrounds. Now we just have to act on it.

## Community Dinner on Sexual & Relationship Respect

Dear Editors,

We're writing today to discuss the role that the Student Government Association (SGA) plays in addressing sexual and relationship respect. Last year, after a series of conversations with other institutions in the Northeast, the SGA decided to increase its commitment to promoting sexual & relationship

### READER OP-ED

**Maddie Orcutt '16** is from Casper, WY and **Kyra Gray '17** is from Hillsborough, CA

respect here at Middlebury. This Thursday, Jan. 28, the SGA will co-host an Atwater dinner on these issues alongside It Happens Here and JusTalks. Over the past several months, President Gratch and others have met with a number of stakeholders on these topics, and have developed three

guiding questions for students to explore alongside one another as we move forward: (1) What is our current culture surrounding sex and relationships at Middlebury, (2) What is the culture that we want and (3) How do we get there?

We want to emphasize that these three questions are merely starting points for this dialogue, and that asking these questions will demand sustained follow up from administrators, the SGA and students alike. We are not looking to tell one synchronized story about sex and relationships at Midd; as students with different identities and life

**"We are not looking to tell one synchronized story about sex and relationships at Midd; as students with different identities and life experiences, we all bring different perspectives and lenses to the table on these issues."**

experiences, we all bring different perspectives and lenses to the table on these issues. We are, however, interested in learning from one another, in deepening our sense of commitment to this community and in beginning the process of establishing sexual and relationship norms on this campus.

Following in the footsteps of President Patton's recent comments, including her thoughts on restorative justice as well as the value of having difficult conversations, the SGA wants to continue to host campus dialogues on sexual & relationship respect

beyond the Atwater dinner. We are of the belief that envisioning a healthier, safer Middlebury requires not only looking forward, but also having frank discussions about where we are at today.

Whether you were able to RSVP for the upcoming Atwater dinner or not, we want you to know that the SGA is committed to continuing these conversations. Please feel free to reach out to either of us, your Senators or President Gratch in the coming months with any input or initiatives that you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Maddie Orcutt, Class of 2016  
Kyra Gray, Class of 2017  
SGA Co-Directors of Sexual & Relationship Respect

## LETTER TO THE MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY

My dear people of Middlebury,

I saw an 18-year-old white woman crying in front of 800 people in Mead Chapel; she'd been publicly berated for wearing a hat. Not out of spite. Not out of hate. She

### READER OP-ED

**Eli Susman '18.5** is from Northbrook, IL

had been attending Middlebury for a matter of weeks and did not yet learn that wearing a sombrero was cultural appropriation. Putting aside for the moment concerns about white fragility, her real offense was not already being perfect.

I see day after day white people who are or would be curious about the movement, critically analyzing their privilege and trying to become woke, get shut down the moment they make a mistake. Some call

it racism; I call it ignorance. Silencing our potential allies as they try to unlearn that ignorance only broadens the divide in our community already struggling with anxiety and loneliness. I don't want to be one of those guys saying all lives matter, but I don't want the social justice movement to lose the fundamental principle of what a safe space is: being able to be ourselves without fear of judgment. To create spaces safe for marginalized students and therefore all students, we have to open the doors of learning to everyone.

I was told from an early age that college is a place to become better citizens of the world, to learn by trial and error. But this is not my experience with social justice on campus. How can we learn and grow when we can't fail? How can we demand "perfection" when we demand it immediately and prevent people from the learning process to

get there?

One problem with this environment is that words like "privilege" and "cultural appropriation" become their own rigid truths. I rarely see students challenge one another's beliefs—refining definitions, premises, and all—to develop more nuanced positions. We wind up with a limited conversation and few solutions. I see potential allies alienated, when some of my peers, passionate and knowledgeable about their beliefs, have trouble articulating them to people who don't share their same vocabulary. But I can't blame activists for speaking the language of justice, whose sound bites are designed to be shared, liked, and retweeted. We are rewarded online and in school for cleverness, zingers, jargon, and one-liners. But as Purdue's Frederik DeBoer, a linguistics professor, describes: "They say terms like 'privilege'...and expect

the conversation to somehow just stop, that if you say the magic words, you have won that round and the world is supposed to roll over to what you want."

Socrates had a similar experience in his time and started to question religion, but was put to death for "impiety." With our ostensibly dogmatic social justice movement it often seems like we are doing the same thing to other. To affect change we have to be willing to refine and be refined. Socrates advocated continuously investigating our beliefs for a more sophisticated understanding.

Solidarity, being an activist or an ally, is not silent agreement. Nor is it a parroting "agreement on all matters." Despite Campus op-eds, town hall meetings, and diversity-themed email chains, there are many people on campus who do not

SEE UNLEARNING, PAGE 7



# Sophomore Conference Showcases Perspectives on Liberal Arts Careers, Holds Alumna Keynote

By Ethan Brady  
Features Editor

On Friday, Jan. 15, the Center for Careers & Internships (CCI) hosted its second annual sophomore conference. At the event, faculty, staff, alumni and students discussed the value of a Middlebury education, the many paths that College alumni take and the preparation and flexibility gained from pursuing a liberal arts degree. Almost 320 students signed up to attend the events.

The conference, titled "Preparation and Possibilities: On Leading a Liberal Arts Life," was a coordinated effort between several College offices, including the CCI, the five Commons and the Office of Academic Affairs.

Organizers focused the conference on sophomores in order to complement their newly declared majors, study abroad, summer internships and career planning that accompany sophomore year.

"Research in higher education continues to show effects of the sophomore slump — a time when students have settled into their new lives in college and the emphasis placed on the first-year transition has largely disappeared," said Peggy Burns, director of the CCI.

"Sophomore year is an exciting, but uniquely challenging year," she continued. "Students declare a major, they consider their study abroad options and they dig into their extracurricular interests. They do all of this while also balancing their studies. We hope to provide some guidance and address some of these issues through panel discussions and one-on-one conversations."

Students could attend one of nine

panels organized by subject, including literature, the humanities, the social sciences and STEM. Each panel consisted of one faculty monitor and several returning alumni, who spoke about their careers thus far and what they feel their years at the College did for them. Students received a copy of the new "Preparation and Possibilities" series for their newly declared major, a document created for each of Middlebury's 40 majors, including information about the skills acquired, and the internships and jobs held by students and alumni of that major.

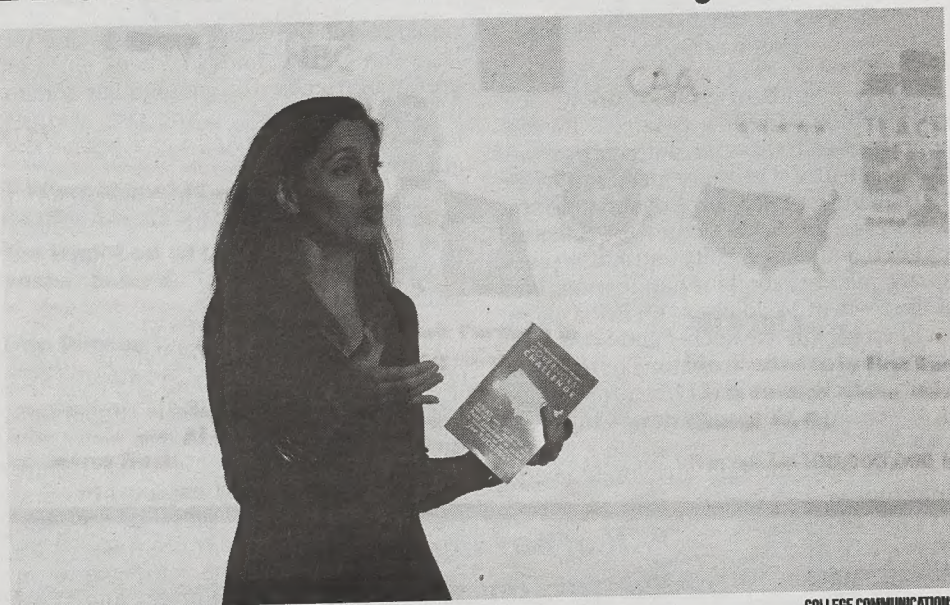
More than 35 alumni from a wide array of industries, and in varying stages of their careers, returned to campus for the weekend. Alumni spoke of their own professional paths, which ranged from attending law school and defending undocumented immigrant children in federal court to running a start-up mead brewery in Winooski, Vt.

Ninive Calegari '93 delivered the headlining keynote address in Charles A. Dana Auditorium on Friday evening. Calegari is the cofounder and former CEO of 826 National, a nonprofit organization focused on helping young students improve their expository and creative writing skills.

In her address, titled "Wondering How to Make the World a Better Place? Your Liberal Arts Education Will Come in Supremely Handy," Calegari spoke of her time at Middlebury, recalling several fond — some humorous — memories in front of her audience, which filled the auditorium to capacity. She thanked her adviser,

PEGGY BURNS  
DIRECTOR OF CCI

Allison Stanger, professor of international politics and economics, who introduced Calegari on stage, for inspiring her



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Ninive Calegari '93 gave a keynote address about problems facing public school teachers, including working conditions and starting salaries as compared to other professions.

to attend Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and to pursue her current line of work: improving the American education system.

Calegari spoke about her work studying teacher salaries, which she argued are dangerously low. She gave case studies of teachers whom she interviewed who work second and third jobs "just to make ends meet." She revealed a startling statistic: the average starting teacher's salary in New York is almost half of what an Uber driver makes in that state.

Calegari tied in her work with the Teacher Salary Project, a nonprofit which she founded and of which she is currently president, aimed at improving the working conditions and increasing the salaries of public school teachers. As part of the project, Calegari produced the 2011 film "American Teacher," adapted from her novel "Teachers Have It Easy" and narrated by actor Matt Damon. Much like the novel and documentary, her address made a passionate argument for raising average salaries of teachers.

"Teachers are truly the heart and soul

of our country, and they should be paid accordingly," Calegari said. "It is a shame that teacher salaries have not increased proportionately with the spending that schools have devoted per pupil."

The conference ended on Sunday morning with breakfast roundtable discussions in Atwater Dining Hall. Alumni, sorted by field and industries, talked to students about mission-driven leadership across the nonprofit sector and what it takes to build thriving and effective social enterprises.

According to Burns, Middlebury first-year students named career planning as one of the top five causes of their stress when surveyed after being on campus for only a month.

"Our strategy is to continue creating a career education planning experience that is interwoven throughout all four years," she said. "We want to encourage independence, exploration and aspiration, and we're working to engage students earlier. The sophomore conference is a great step in that direction."

## Unlearning Ignorance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

yet understand cultural appropriation. Demanding change hasn't made it happen. It won't happen until we allow people to ask important, nuanced, possibly poorly-worded questions. Otherwise, we'll become trapped by vague, unspoken definitions, censoring everything that might be cultural appropriation until we lose our sense of identity and expression.

Deboer calls it critique drifting when a particular critical political lens that correctly identifies a problem gets generalized and used less and less specifically over time. This in turn blunts the force of the critique and ultimately fuels a backlash against it. Critique drift is a way that good political arguments go bad.

Let's keep in mind our goal: a safe, healthy, diverse and supportive community, at risk from political correctness that, instead of educating us out of harming each other, undergoes critique drift and broadens into censorship. Particularly harmful is a censorship not only of ideas but also of voices. While judging the value of a voice by its privilege alone doesn't carry the historical weight of racism, it only inverts the dynamic. It is dangerous. It doesn't end censorship or un-safety; it just changes who has to deal with it and further divides community.

I see many of my fellow students hoping to protect themselves from further suffering by sticking to people who share their ideological boxes. At the core of psychology, helping people avoid the things they fear is misguided.

Here are some things we all have in common: we are all suffering, and we all live on the same campus. I understand many of us are tired. White feelings are not more important than the feelings of a per-

son of color and vice-versa. Perhaps instead of calling people out, we can call them in. Instead of taking people's words for face value, we can try to look into what they are actually trying to say, while we are learning to say what we actually mean. This is not something we can do alone. Middlebury can help.

One problem: In a social justice class, we can read thousands of pages learning about privilege, but spend little to no time learning how to confront it in our interactions with others. The classroom is one of the few spaces at Middlebury where people interact with others outside their circles, and we often go through an entire semester without learning each other's names.

My fellow students and I may have to study hard and write long papers, but we often hide within objective information without having to venture out of our comfort zones. The result is that pain becomes intellectualized. For example, I hear people saying that white people just have to accept that they are all racist, should start unlearning their racism, and the world will be a better place. In my experience, calling each other racist doesn't make people want to unlearn; it makes them afraid to unlearn. This is not white fragility. This is not some hippie tree-hugger doctrine. This is just how people work. Perhaps we can investigate how our classmates and our own lived experiences play into what we are learning.

According to Thich Nhat Hanh, who was nominated by Martin Luther King, Jr. for the Nobel Peace Prize, sharing experience transforms ignorance into understanding and fear into love. Putting words to experience can be hard and draining, especially when the person doing the explaining feels like they are representing an entire group of people. These feelings

are valid, and sharing experience is not the same as representing an entire group. If you do not understand why, try listening to people share their experience. Two Native Americans have different experiences being Native American, and two people who are Jewish have different experiences being Jewish. In my experience, when we understand the people who disagree with us, we recognize what will help them value our perspective. We can understand each other by listening, and the more present we are with people who we are trying to understand, the better listeners we can be.

My question is: how are we supposed to be present for each other when school is moving a million miles an hour? How are we supposed to understand and learn about other cultures and the lived experiences of people if we are assigned thousands of pages of reading each week?

Middlebury needs to slow down.

I am an EMT, and when we have a life-or-death emergency, we don't rush. What's going to save a life is not those extra few minutes or seconds of tripping over ourselves, it's the critical interventions that must be done slowly (yet efficiently) to make sure what we're doing is being done properly and that we are not missing anything. For some reason, at Middlebury, it feels like those extra few seconds are life or death, and it almost never feels like we're doing it right. I see students walking to class faster than a medic walking to a motor vehicle crash. When we live as human beings instead of human beings, ignorance is the result.

I'm afraid we are moving way too quickly — too quickly to learn well, too quickly to listen to each other, too quickly to change. We move so quickly we cannot prioritize the hard work of healing togeth-

er. In the same way reading a book about exercise wouldn't make one stronger, healing is not something we can just study to accomplish. Understanding takes practice, practice needs a space, and I cannot create that alone.

We can be there for each other if we are able to prioritize ourselves. And often, we don't. Our frenetic pace, our workload, and our go-it-alone success narrative do not allow us to be introspective, and so we struggle to turn that self-love outwards and begin the process of community change and healing.

While we are unlearning ignorance, we can relearn the art of relaxing. In the words of Thich Nhat Hanh, "not only does it help prevent the onset of many illnesses that develop through chronic tension and worry; it allows us to clear our minds, focus, and find creative solutions to problems."

There is going to come a time when we realize that in an effort to do good for the world we need the Muslim, the Jew, the Buddhist, the Hindu, the transgender woman, the person of color, and the heteronormative wealthy, white, straight, able-bodied, Anglo-Saxon Protestant cis-male. One perspective is inherently lacking. When looking at a sculpture, one person cannot appreciate its full beauty. Some parts cannot be seen from their angle. The blind person can walk up to the sculpture and feel it, and if they can't walk we can build a ramp, because when we combine our perspectives we can gain an even greater understanding.

Let's work together to build a better community.

Warm regards,  
Eli Susman



# Spiritual and Religious Students Make Meatloaf, Cook Up Community

By Henry Burnett  
Features Editor

Sixty pounds of ground turkey. Seventy pounds of yellow potatoes. Eleven pounds of salted butter. Fifteen boxes of spice cake mix. These are just a few of the ingredients it took a corps of about 20 students plus the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life faculty and staff to cook up 210 plates of food for hungry members of the town of Middlebury on Friday, Jan. 15. Ellen McKay, head chef and Scott Center Administrative Program Coordinator, described the annual service project held at Middlebury Congregational Church as a success.

"We went through absolutely everything that we had: every piece of meatloaf, every piece of cake," McKay said. "We served fewer people tonight than we typically do, but every one of them had a real meal and every one of them walked out of here feeling a little more cared for than they did when they walked in."

The Charter House Coalition community supper has run every Friday in the basement of 2 Main Street since March 2005. The weekly meal has grown in attendance from 22 guests the first night to over 250 plates served in recent months, said Dottie Neuberger, community supper coordinator. She said different local organizations take turns cooking the free meal.

"We have faith groups, we have businesses, we have service organiza-

tions, Middlebury College groups and we have some individuals like book clubs or groups of friends who get together and do it," Neuberger said. "If you give, you get back a lot, and we like to give people the gift of giving."

"It's also a concrete gift," she added. "I work in the mental health field and that's very abstract. So when you do something concrete [for someone], it's a different feeling."

Neuberger said National Honor Society members from Middlebury Union High School as well as students from the College who volunteer at the suppers often come back again and again.

Some students, such as Matei Epure '16, were at the charity meal for the first time on Friday.

Epure played piano for guests on Friday and said volunteering at the meals could help other College students to refresh their perspective of campus life.

ELLEN MCKAY

SCOTT CENTER, ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**"All of our needs are provided for on campus: our heat, our meals. So sometimes, it might be easy to take stuff for granted."**

"Coming into America, I saw a sort of America.

This is not something I thought Addison Country would look like in any place," he said. "Middlebury is a bubble that showed last year that we can get very stressed and concentrate a lot on the problems happening on campus. You come here, and you realize that the campus is not the world."

McKay also said that when students get off campus and partner with volunteer organizations such as Charter House, they remember that many people around the

world struggle for resources the College provides to students with ease each day.

"All of our needs are provided for on campus: our heat, our meals. So sometimes, it might be easy to take stuff for granted," she said. "This gives the students the sense that they might be feeling a little grateful for having their creature comforts met so effortlessly."

When students do become involved in the local community, McKay said they often make connections to the town that last throughout their undergraduate years.

"Sometimes people just help out for one night, but sometimes it turns into a four-year relationship. That's happened a lot, actually. And that feeds their souls in a way, to come downtown and do some good," she said.

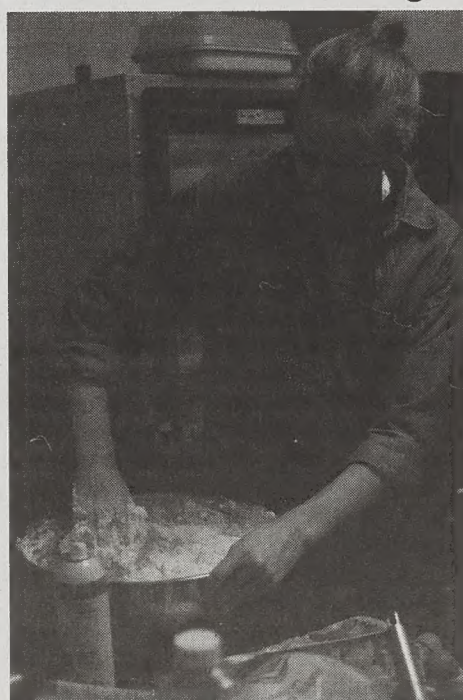
For Spencer Egan '15, the past two years spent serving guests almost every Friday night have helped him to connect to a Middlebury beyond the College.

"I came from a smaller town where I knew a lot of the community members, and in terms of feeling at home in a place, it's been really crucial," he said. "Even when I was a little, I've always enjoyed talking and hanging out with people in their 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, and older. It's just a different perspective."

Like Epure, Egan said college students often feel isolated from the rest of town, and that volunteering with townspeople fosters mutual respect.

"I think every person has their own mental blocks as to how they view the rest of the community," he said. "It's about seeing them as people and thinking about their lives, where they're coming from."

No matter how long students volunteer, whether for four years or just one night, volunteer Jane Steele said students



MICHAEL O'HARA

Henry Burnett '18.5 mixes some frosting for the Charter House community supper.

can expand their education if they choose to do something different on a Friday night.

"[Students] shouldn't be afraid to come join us," she said. "We can use help on any Friday – you don't have to be a lifer. Even to just sit with a group of people at a table. There's so much that they could do to just be part of the community, a whole different learning experience."

More information about the Charter House Community Suppers can be found online at <http://www.charterhousecoalition.org/>.

## More Staff and New Hours at Parton

By Laura Dillon  
Contributing Writer

Just before winter break, Parton Health Center announced new changes to scheduling and staff that would take effect in 2016. Parton reduced the number of hours they are open on Fridays – the health center now closes at 6 p.m. rather than 9 p.m. – and also added a full-time and a half-time position, filled by nurse practitioners who can prescribe medications.

As Dr. Gus Jordan, executive director of Parton explained, Parton changed its Friday closing time not to reduce staff hours, but rather as an attempt to redistribute their resources to accommodate students in busier times during the week, such as lunchtime. Parton decided to make this change after a careful analysis of visits and saw that Friday evenings were the least busy hours. Jordan said Parton will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of their hours and try to accommodate students' needs in the best way possible.

Parton decided to add more staff who can prescribe medication in response to student demands. While most of the illnesses students have do not usually require prescriptions, many students wanted more access to professionals capable of prescribing medicine. With these new positions, fewer students will have to go to Porter Hospital for assessment and diagnosis. Jordan said the new nurse practitioners also bring "a fresh perspective and new expertise, as well as commitment to the student population, to complement our current excellent staff."

Parton made these changes after close collaboration with many student organizations, such as SGA and Community Council.

Emma Erwin, a SGA director of health and wellness, said the SGA is very excited about the changes.

"Gus [Jordan] has actively pursued conversations with relevant student leaders to gain insight and input during the process of formulating these new changes, and dedicated time and energy into presenting the proposed changes to both SGA and community council before implementing them," Erwin explained.

Jordan is also optimistic that the conversations between Parton and students will continue. Considering the fact that 40 to 45 percent of every graduating class at Middlebury has used the counseling services at some point, Parton is eager to expand their services and accommodate students' needs.

"With increased stress on campus, more conversations about mental health, and so many new programs and student-run activities, Parton wants to be in sync with that, in a way we perhaps haven't been in the past," Jordan said.

In the counseling department, Parton recently turned a part-time counselor position into a full-time position, and approved two graduate fellowship positions. Jordan said the goal for these positions is to "increase the level of diversity, background, and expertise on a two-to-three year rotating basis." Parton is currently advertising and recruiting for these positions nationwide.

More changes and improvements might be coming to Parton in the future, fueled by students' concerns and criticisms regarding mental health care at Middlebury. Jordan explained two options Parton is exploring and hopes to discuss with students soon. One is an online cognitive behavior program students could access from anywhere in

the world, any time of day. The idea is an online counseling approach, which students complete autonomously and can virtually link in a counselor for help if they choose to do so. Parton will be conducting tests with the software company soon.

Additionally, Parton is considering is a 24-hour call-in service, which allows a student to call in and talk to a masters level counselor based somewhere in the US who is familiar with the College. They would be able to talk about student concerns, give suggestions

about what to do, and evaluate if the student is in danger and alert the college if necessary. This service would be available internationally, meaning students studying abroad would have access to the calls as well.

DR. GUS JORDAN

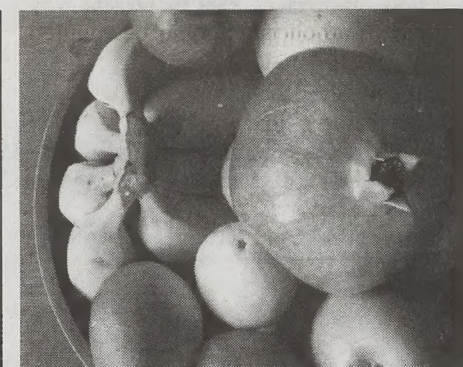
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PARTON HEALTH CENTER

**"Parton wants to be in sync [with discussions on mental health] in a way we perhaps haven't been in the past."**

Neither option is cheap, but Parton will be in communication with students regarding both options and try to decide which one might be a better place for Middlebury to start. So far, many students have expressed approval with Parton's recent dedication to address mental health and student stress.

"I think mental health is really important, especially at Middlebury, so I'm happy Parton is considering expanding their counseling services because I think that will help a lot of students," Maeghan Glidden '19 said.

"I used to be hesitant to go to Parton because of stories I had heard from upperclassmen but knowing that they're making changes and working with student organizations makes me trust them a lot more," Anna Baird '19 added.



## Wellness Tip of the Week

By Wellness Leaders  
Contributing Columnists

### The Ideal Nap

Eat a nourishing meal! As delicious and wonderful as chocolate, cookies, candy, chips and other quick snacks are, they will only give you a quick burst of energy before the sugars run through your system. Our bodies naturally produce carbohydrates and fats, but not protein, which is essential for brain functioning! Whole grains like quinoa, legumes like beans, chickpeas and lentils, and of course, animal products like feta cheese, eggs, chicken, and other meat all are great sources. It is important to eat well for your brain to function right. Fruit and granola bars make fine snacks, but be sure to get some solid substance at your meals.

### Mental Health News:

The second annual Resilience story telling event will be next week on Thursday, January 21st at 8 p.m. in Wilson Hall. Submitted stories will be read openly by the author or anonymously by a volunteer. There will be Midd Cakes and an opportunity the next day to have a follow-up discussion. We hope to see you there!



# The Good Ole Campus: A Look Back at the 1960s

By Grace Levin  
Staff Columnist

As campaign season rolls around, this column decided to look back at the talk on campus during the famous 1960 election between Kennedy and Nixon. Such issues of concern were Kennedy's Catholicism, his plans for a welfare state and the new-found presidential television debate.

The March 31, 1960 article reported on polling results showing the faculty's strong support for Kennedy but a divide between student independents.

"Kennedy Beats Nixon Among Independents As Faculty Strongly Opposes Republican"

By Edward S. Rothchild

Overall results of the presidential preference poll conducted last month by the Middlebury Political Council showed that ... the first choice of 99 Democrats is Senator John Kennedy, while the 330 Republicans pick Vice President Richard Nixon. Kennedy beats Nixon as the favorite ... among independents. This last figure is largely due to the violently anti-Nixon sentiments expressed by the faculty and administration personnel who replied. Limiting the results to students, Nixon beats Kennedy by a very slim margin among Independents.

On April 28, 1960, a columnist addressed the impact of Kennedy's religion on his ability to be an effective president.

By Guest Columnist, assistant to the chaplain, F. Dale Branum

A storm of controversy has recently arisen as to whether a Roman Catholic (John F. Kennedy) can or should be elected president. In spite of the fact that all candidates have stated that religious affiliation should not be considered at all by the voter, it is a question that should be given careful thought by every citizen. It cannot be simply ignored ... I see no reason why Kennedy's Catholicism should be counted for or against him. Indeed, if elected, it is likely that Kennedy will be more resistant

to Catholic pressure than a non-Catholic.

But now we come to the question: Can a Catholic be elected? There is no intrinsic reason why he could not, but the prospect is doubtful ... His religious affiliation should not affect the votes - but it will.

The November 3, 1960 issue reported on a mock presidential debate on campus, the national television debate and plans for the actual election night.

"Nixon Victorious in Mock Election"

A mock presidential election, conducted by the Middlebury Political Council last Friday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. showed Nixon to be victorious by a 216-118 margin.

Donald Rubin '61, president of the Young Republicans commented on the outcome of the poll: "This victory indicates the independent thinking and optimistic outlook of college youth who will not tolerate the welfarism inherent in Kennedy's program."

"Nixon-Kennedy Debates Leave Three Questions Unanswered"

By Gordon Henderson

The future of a TV debate must remain very much in doubt. Much will depend on who is elected next Tuesday, on what effect the 'political analysts' decide the debates had on the election's outcome and finally on how much public demand there is for this type of thing in 1964.

Also, Nixon's performance on the fourth debate undoubtedly solidified hatred of the Vice President always latent in the hearts of many Democrats. The Vice President's statements may have been welcomed by Republicans, but may they not have done him great harm in the end by driving Democrats into the Kennedy-Democrats' arms?

"Election Night"

Proctor Hall's lounge will remain open until 2 a.m. Tuesday night, according to Lyn Hinman, social director. Coffee and donuts will be served from 11 a.m. until 2 for late election - return watchers.

## Political Poll

### Kennedy Beats Nixon Among Independents As Faculty Strongly Opposes Republican

By EDWARD S. ROTHCHILD  
(Second in a Series)

Overall results of the presidential preference poll conducted last month by the Middlebury Political Council showed that of the 722 people who replied, the first choice of the 99 Democrats is Senator John Kennedy, while the 330 Republicans pick Vice President Richard Nixon. Kennedy beats Nixon as the favorite among the 283 who called themselves Independents. This last figure is largely due to the violently anti-Nixon sentiments expressed by the faculty and administration personnel who replied. Limiting the results to students, Nixon beats Kennedy by a very slim margin among Independents.

The method of determining the relative strength of the candidates was to separate the polls into categories according to political party; men, women, or faculty; and religious preference. A separate category was made up of those who did not specify religion. This made a total of 35 categories (there were no returns from the faculty indicating religion as Jewish).

#### Point System

Among the Democrats tabulations were made to show the number of first places, second places, etc., given to each of the five candidates. A point system showing relative strength was used, in which for each first place the candidate received five points, second places received four points, and so on. Following are the results for all Democrats:

Kennedy	386 pts.
Stevenson	351 pts.
Humphrey	246 pts.
Johnson	221 pts.
Symington	177 pts.

In addition, there was one written vote for Chester Bowles as first choice.

Of the 414 men who responded, the 80 Democrats answered:

Kennedy	253 pts.
Stevenson	224 pts.
Humphrey	159 pts.
Johnson	139 pts.
Symington	104 pts.

The 27 Democrats out of 260 women who replied gave these choices:

Kennedy	93 pts.
Stevenson	82 pts.
Johnson	66 pts.
Humphrey	62 pts.
Symington	51 pts.

The group of 48 faculty and administration personnel included 12 Democrats, who choose:

Stevenson	45 pts.
Kennedy	40 pts.
Humphrey	25 pts.
Symington	22 pts.
Johnson	16 pts.
Bowles	5 pts.

Interesting is the fact that Stevenson tied Kennedy among the men in the number who indicated him as their first choice. The women and faculty actually awarded more first place choices to Stevenson and Kennedy, but Kennedy had many more second place choices, which gave him the somewhat higher total score.

#### Nixon Leads

The 330 Republicans accorded Nixon a tremendous lead in preference to Rockefeller. In this tabulation two points were awarded for a first place choice and one for a second place. Overall, Nixon beat Rockefeller among Republicans by a score of 619 to 376.

The 194 Republican men chose Nixon by a score of 387 to 230 for the New York governor, whereas the 123 GOP women picked the vice president 228 to Rockefeller's 132. The combined total of the 317 Republican students named Nixon with 595 points to 362 for Rockefeller, and the 13 faculty Republicans declared Nixon 23, Rockefeller 16.

It was among the 293 Independents that the real surprise occurred. One would have imagined that on a campus that is Republican by

more than three to one the Independents would lean heavily toward the GOP. Such is not the case. Tabulation of the Independents was conducted in a manner similar to the two parties; since there were seven candidates listed, seven points were awarded for each first place, six for seconds, etc.:

Kennedy	1355 pts.
Nixon	1315 pts.
Rockefeller	1094 pts.
Stevenson	984 pts.
Johnson	700 pts.
Humphrey	584 pts.
Symington	537 pts.

In addition there was one written vote for Estes Kefauver as first choice, and one for Chester Bowles as second choice.

The 100 Independent men replied:

Kennedy	734 pts.
Nixon	732 pts.
Rockefeller	571 pts.
Stevenson	561 pts.
Johnson	361 pts.
Humphrey	343 pts.
Symington	290 pts.
Kefauver	7 pts.

Among the 110 Independent women:

Nixon	540 pts.
Kennedy	532 pts.
Rockefeller	442 pts.
Stevenson	311 pts.
Johnson	303 pts.
Symington	199 pts.
Humphrey	165 pts.
Bowles	6 pts.

It should be pointed out that among both men and women Nixon received more first place votes than Kennedy, whereas Kennedy got more second place choices. What may be important, however, is that Nixon received one of the

ALL COLOR FILM PROCESSED BY  
EASTMAN (Rapid Service)

AT

Vermont Drug, Inc.

TWO REGISTERED PHARMACISTS

Main St. DU 8-4977 Middlebury



# The Glaurie Ride: A Trip to McDonalds with Patton

By Charlie Ascher  
Senior Columnist

Loyal fans, I write to you from Jersey Mike's sub shop in the beautiful Newark International Airport to report that something 'glaurious' emerged from the pit of despair that was exam week. Like a phoenix, the car column rises out of the darkness of exams and into the glaurie of the light. If you haven't picked up on the hints as subtle as an Atwater pickup line, the non-award-winning car column, Broke College Students in Cars Getting McDonalds, is making its one article return featuring one of Middlebury's newest faculty members, President Laurie Patton. The Glaurie Ride happened, and it was glaurious (ok, I promise I'll stop now).

I grew bold after successfully taking President Liebowitz to the greasy temple of McDonalds last year to complete his farewell tour. After spending the entire summer calculating the conversion of the Liebowitz-o-Meter car rating system to the Patton-o-Meter, I wasn't about to just not test out the new metric. In case you were wondering, the conversion is precisely two Pattons to every Liebowitz, so that the Patton meter is a rating out of ten.

**The Car:** 2014 Dark Blue Subaru Outback  
**Car Name:** Renée  
**The Owner:** Middlebury College (Renée's actually a college car)

**Styling:** She wore a long denim skirt and a cardigan, totally outclassing us slovenly students. In terms of the car ... The closest thing to camouflage that you can drive on a Vermont road, the Outback is ubiquitous. Only a "peace," "eat more kale," or "coexist" sticker on the back would make it look more Vermont. Compared to the previous generation, which looked like a slightly overweight and confused angry frog, the newest model slims down and focuses up, now looking exactly like an angry frog.

**Patton-o-Meter:** 8/10 Lauries.

**Interior:** Comfortable. Spacious. Practical. These are all words that describe the interior of the Subaru Outback. The Bosnian Back Seat Tester (BBST) had to be replaced for this drive as he had failed his duty and gone abroad to Uruguay. Luckily, after much searching, I found a replacement. Laura Harris, arguably Laurie Patton's biggest fan, filled in as the Vermont Back Seat Tester (VBST). The VBST enjoyed vast amounts of space while having a spiritual moment in the back seat. I'm pretty sure Laura was speaking in tongues for a couple hours after the drive.

**Patton-o-Meter:** 8/10 Lauries.

**Handling and Performance:** I did not have the clearance to drive President Patton, so she drove us. Patton has already gotten the hang of whipping around Middlebury like a pro. One thing: she didn't fully stop at the stop sign by the biomass plant. Better watch out for pub safe, Patton; they gave me a \$50 ticket for doing that!

**Patton-o-Meter:** 7/10 Lauries.

**Drive-through-ability:** The Subaru wants to be a mass market American car: of course this thing kills the drive through! It's got huge cup-holders and armrests to fit all of your greasy dreams. The window is at close to ideal drive-through height.

**Patton-o-Meter:** 10/10 Lauries.

**The Drive:** A truly transformative and yet intimidating experience. I would highly recommend going to McDonalds with President Patton to anyone. In case you're wondering, she goes to McDonalds to "be alone," so it might be tough to interrupt her deep-fried me time. On our drive we talked about fries, the origins of sexual, racial and religious violence, and China. I made the mistake of telling President Patton that my history thesis was about Bangladesh, which she has studied extensively ... whoops. Needless to say, she knew far more about my topic than

I did.

In terms of our order, we went for two cups of water (because we're healthy and sustainable Middlebury students), a small and medium fry and an iced tea. President Patton pulled a wildcard and ordered a broccoli soup, becoming the first person to order soup from the Middlebury McDonalds ever.

I didn't even know McDonalds had soup. President Patton is probably the smartest person I've had an extended conversation with. Now that she's driven to McDs with some random students, she is officially a part of the Middlebury community. Congratulations, President Patton, you're going to make a great president.

**Patton-o-Meter:** 10/10 Lauries.



CHARLIE ASCHER

President Patton poses with Laura Harris '17 after a run to McDonalds with Charlie Ascher '17.



# J-TERMING FROM

## Annie Taylor '16 and Casey Harlow '16 Santa Cruz Island, California

Annie Taylor '16 and Casey Harlow '16 are spending their Winter term hiking all over Santa Cruz Island off the coast of California, religiously searching the remote island for one species in particular: the Bishop pine tree. Taylor, a Biology major and a California native, is spending her year long thesis investigating the spatial pattern of Bishop pine mortality on Santa Cruz Island; in other words, she aims to understand where and why the pine is dying and to map its future distribution, especially in the light of California's recent devastating droughts.

Harlow, an International Politics and Economics major, accompanied Taylor to Santa Cruz Island, after the Nature Conservancy, which owns the majority of the unpopulated island, suggested it would be unsafe for Taylor to conduct her research alone. While on the island, Harlow is personally investigating how the Bishop pine tree is surviving depending on fence lines.

Together, both women spend their days driving the skinny, dirt island roads, hiking to reach secluded stands of pine trees, marking trees with their GPS units and collecting data. They are staying on a small ranch, leftover from the days when the island was covered in sheep and managed by cowboys. In the evenings, they help Jay, the ranch manager and the only other person currently on the island, with small chores around the ranch.

"I feel very lucky to be able to spend time in this beautiful place, especially because I am not a scientist or a big donor for the Nature Conservancy," Harlow said. "This project has really allowed me to study something new and take advantage of a liberal arts education."



## Christopher Diak '18.5 Cambridge, Massachusetts

Amidst the lab benches of the Rapoport Lab at Harvard Medical School, neuroscience major Christopher Diak '18.5 is hard at work purifying an "endoplasmic reticulum" protein that has been linked to multiple neurodegenerative diseases. The end goal of the Rapoport Team's research is to discern the precise chemical structure of the protein to test their hypotheses to "see how its pathway works."

As most of his work takes place at the microscope, Diak still marvels at the way in which the smallest movements can have such great physiological effects. "I love this because I am learning to see neurodegenerative diseases as the tiniest movements of molecules. It is amazing to think if we can just make some proteins better at the job, we can prevent immense suffering."

Although the scientific method works on a strictly defined set of controlled conditions, Diak's day in the lab is anything but predictable. Interestingly, a crucial part of scientific research consists of eliminating things in which things do not work in order to figure out the mechanism functions.

"A typical day involves lots of optimizations. Experiments never run the way you want them to the first [even] eighth time, so we look at the data from the experiment and use what we know to tweak our approach."

Diak, however, is not disappointed when experiments fail. "Even on days when the proteins crash I leave feeling I've learned or accomplished something important. That experience like that can't be overestimated."

## Joanna Balla '18 Columbia Heights, D.C.

An aspiring teacher, literary studies major Joanna Balla '18 has been spending her days surrounded by three and four-year-olds at the AppleTree Institute, a Public Charter Pre-school located in Columbia Heights, D.C.

Even though the classroom can quickly become hectic and difficult to manage, Balla says she loves the challenge. "I've had a passion for education from an early age and it has been so rewarding to start putting these dreams into action by actually spending time working in the classroom. I'm learning so much about classroom control and behavior management from the awesome team of teachers they have."

Apart from leading activities for the children, Balla notes that one of the most difficult – yet fulfilling – parts of her internship has been working alongside kids with learning disabilities.

For Balla, the greatest joy comes from seeing the small glimmers of progress in her students. "Some of the students that I work with are struggling especially with basic skills such as letter recognition and [simple] tasks such as counting to 10. It is really rewarding to get that rare one-on-one time with the kids and start to see progress even in the short while that I have been here."



INTERVIEWS BY EMILIE MUNSON AND RENEE CHANG  
DESIGN BY JULIA HATHEWAY



# COAST TO COAST

the Rapoport Laboratory at the major Christopher Diak and endoplasmic reticulum associated with multiple neurodegenerative diseases. The Rapoport Team's research is to understand the function of the protein and to make it work.

At the microscopic level, with the smallest of molecules and cells. "I love this work because it's a regenerative disease in terms of it. It is amazing to think that at the end of the day, we could

It works on the premise of conditions, Diak says that each table. Interestingly enough, a consists of eliminating the ways to figure out how the actual

of optimizations – experiment them to the first or second (or the data from the last experiment) – our approach."

pointed when experiments crash I leave the lab having important. The value of an animated."



## Jiya Pandya '17 Washington, D.C.

Along with a cohort of three other Middlebury College students, Jiya Pandya '17 is in midst of completing a four-week long internship in Washington, D.C. A history major at the College, Pandya notes that the internship is a perfect complement to her age-long love for "working with old artifacts and documents."

"The Smithsonian itself is an incredible institution, and being a part of it, even for a month, seemed not only like a great way to connect with history, but also to see how public history organizations work in the real world."

Besides being able to access the brimming archives of a world-class institution, Pandya says that her experience at the museum also sheds light upon the incredibly powerful social impact that the organizations such as the Smithsonian have on the public.

By "thinking critically [issues of] public history, power, control, privilege, and identity," Pandya says that her internship has given her the invaluable opportunity to engage firsthand in the behind-the-scenes conversations that collectively determine which particular artifacts museum-goers see when they make a trip to the Smithsonian.

"Our supervisor at the museum – who works with disability history – really pushes us to question and think about the reasons why certain histories are displayed, while others are not. She has been encouraging and teaches me how to be a better activist in a field where having an impact is very much about [finding ways to engage] with an audience to educate them about alternative ideas and affirm their own emotions."

## Kate Bauman '16 Prince Edward Island, Canada

Ever wonder how new medicines and antibiotics are discovered? These days scientists mostly find new drugs by analyzing microbes from remote corners of the planet, like secluded caves and the bottom of the ocean. For Winter Term, Kate Bauman '16 is joining this hunt for novel antibiotics by analyzing microbic samples from Antarctica in a laboratory at the University of Prince Edward Island in Prince Edward Island, Canada. She will be accompanied by Assistant Professor of Chemistry/Biochemistry Lesley-Ann Giddings. Bauman's findings will be part of her thesis, the subject of which is "Exploiting cryptic gene clusters for the discovery of bioactive secondary metabolites."

Bauman is traveling to Prince Edward Island so that she can collaborate with Dr. Russell Kerr. Kerr has the Arctic counterparts to Bauman's Antarctic samples so collaboration between them will allow a comprehensive look at extremophilic microorganisms—tiny organisms that live in the most extreme environments on earth—from both poles. 50 percent of drugs approved by the FDA in the last thirty years have been from natural products like extremophilic microorganisms.

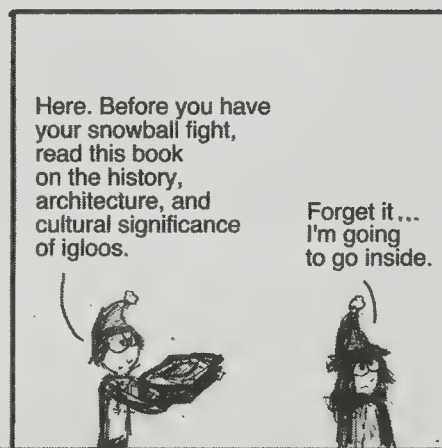
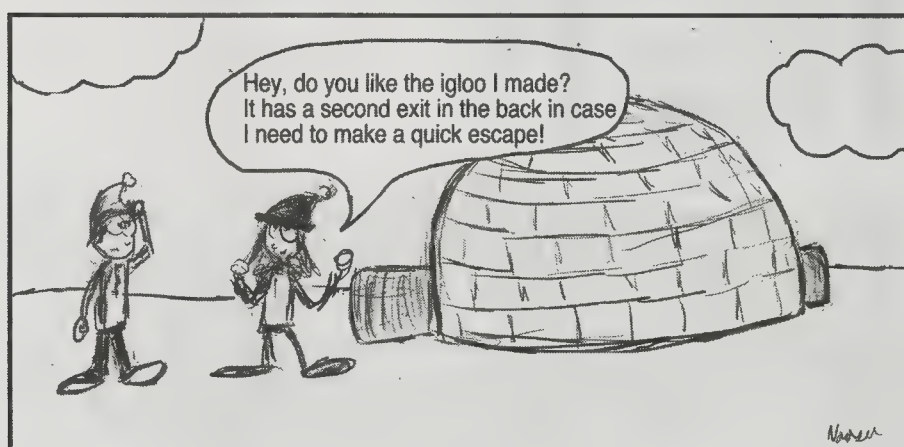
Bauman, who will be in PEI for two weeks, hopes to hike in the Prince Edward Island National Park when she is not working on her research.





# CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus



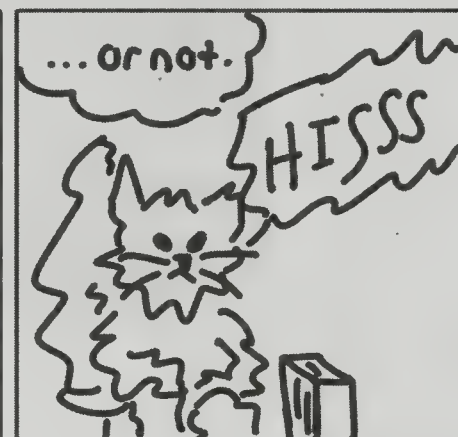
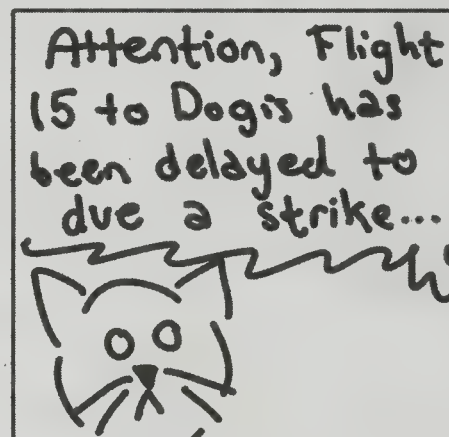
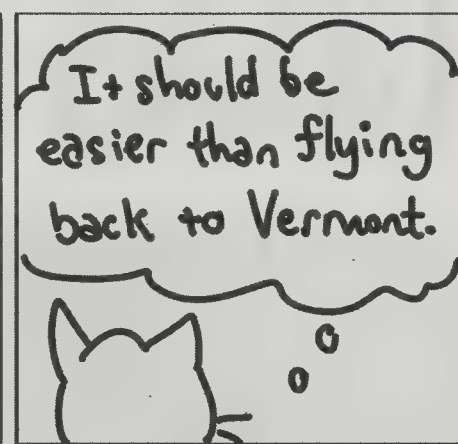
VAASU TANEJA



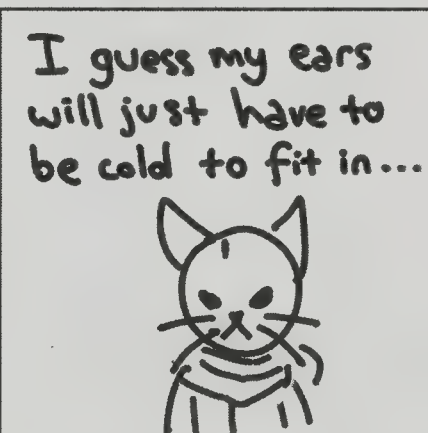
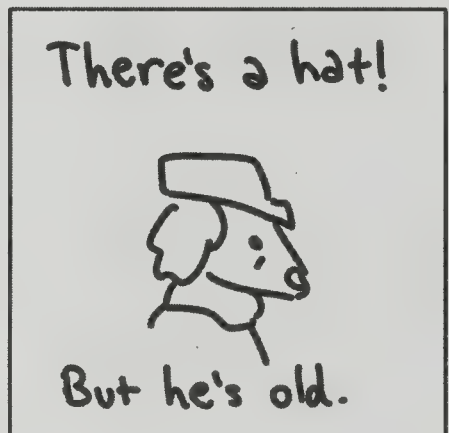
KAITLYND COLLINS



BOONE MCCOY-CRISP



College Cats Abroad by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily



EMILY COX



WIN HOMER



# ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

## Iconic *Chicago* Musical to Debut in Town

By Will Simpson  
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Jan. 28, the curtain will rise on this year's J-term musical, *Chicago*. A sizeable group of dedicated and talented Middlebury students have worked tirelessly on the project, preparing the production in a mere four weeks. The show is directed by the Middlebury Town Hall Theater's executive director, Doug Anderson. College Affiliate Artist and voice teacher Carol Christensen is the music director for the show, and Alicia Vancho will be the primary choreographer. In addition to already sold-out shows on Jan. 28, 29, 31 and Feb. 1, the show's final dress rehearsal will be open to the public on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 8 p.m. for a \$10 donation.

*Chicago* is an iconic and memorable work in the world of musical theater. Holding the record as the longest-running American musical in Broadway history, it tells the story of two rival vaudevillian murderesses, Velma and Roxie. The two women, imprisoned for their crimes, compete for the limelight of the sensationalizing press of the time. As New Line Theater's Scott Miller outlines in his essay *Inside Chicago*, this musical is a "scathing satire of how show business and the media make celebrities out of criminals." Overflowing with raw sexuality, *Chicago* is renowned for its impressive dance numbers and biting social commentary.

Director Doug Anderson emphasized the importance of the Town Hall Theater performance space for Middlebury's production of *Chicago*.

"The College joined with the Middlebury community to purchase [a] dilapidated building in 2000, and was instrumental in helping to raise the \$5 million needed for the restoration," Anderson said. J-Term musicals like *Chicago*, he added, "[exemplify] the thought that the new venue would be a home for college events, a kind of cross-over space in which students and the larger community would interact."

The first performance of *Chicago* was put on when the space was still a con-

struction site, providing what Anderson called "an appropriately seedy setting for this seedy musical." The original show set the stage for the J-term musicals of today, "send[ing] a strong message that this building could become a vibrant force in the cultural life of the community."

**"The only way we get it done is to approach the work with complete professionalism. The challenge for the students is to basically convert themselves into a professional company."**

-DOUG ANDERSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MIDDLEBURY TOWN HALL THEATER

Paige Guarino '18.5, a member of the ensemble, described the audition process for the show as fairly standard. Students auditioning for any role had to learn a song for the first audition, before partaking in a large dance audition. Afterward, separate lead role and ensemble callbacks took place.

Guarino reiterated the importance of dance for this particular show, call-

ing it "the main communication medium throughout the show."

The cast for the J-term musical tends to be comprised mainly of first-years and sophomores, as most juniors study abroad and seniors are often busy working on a thesis during their final J-term. Anderson noted that a younger cast is "a big part of the show's charm."

This year, most of the tech crew and designers are composed of adults from the area and college alumni. The band is part student, part hired professionals, whilst the crew includes students from both the College and the local high school. The cast is made up entirely of Middlebury students.

Stage manager Alex Williamson '17 highlighted some of the stand-out elements of the set, such as the gargantuan red "Chicago" sign that often serves as a symbol of this iconic musical.

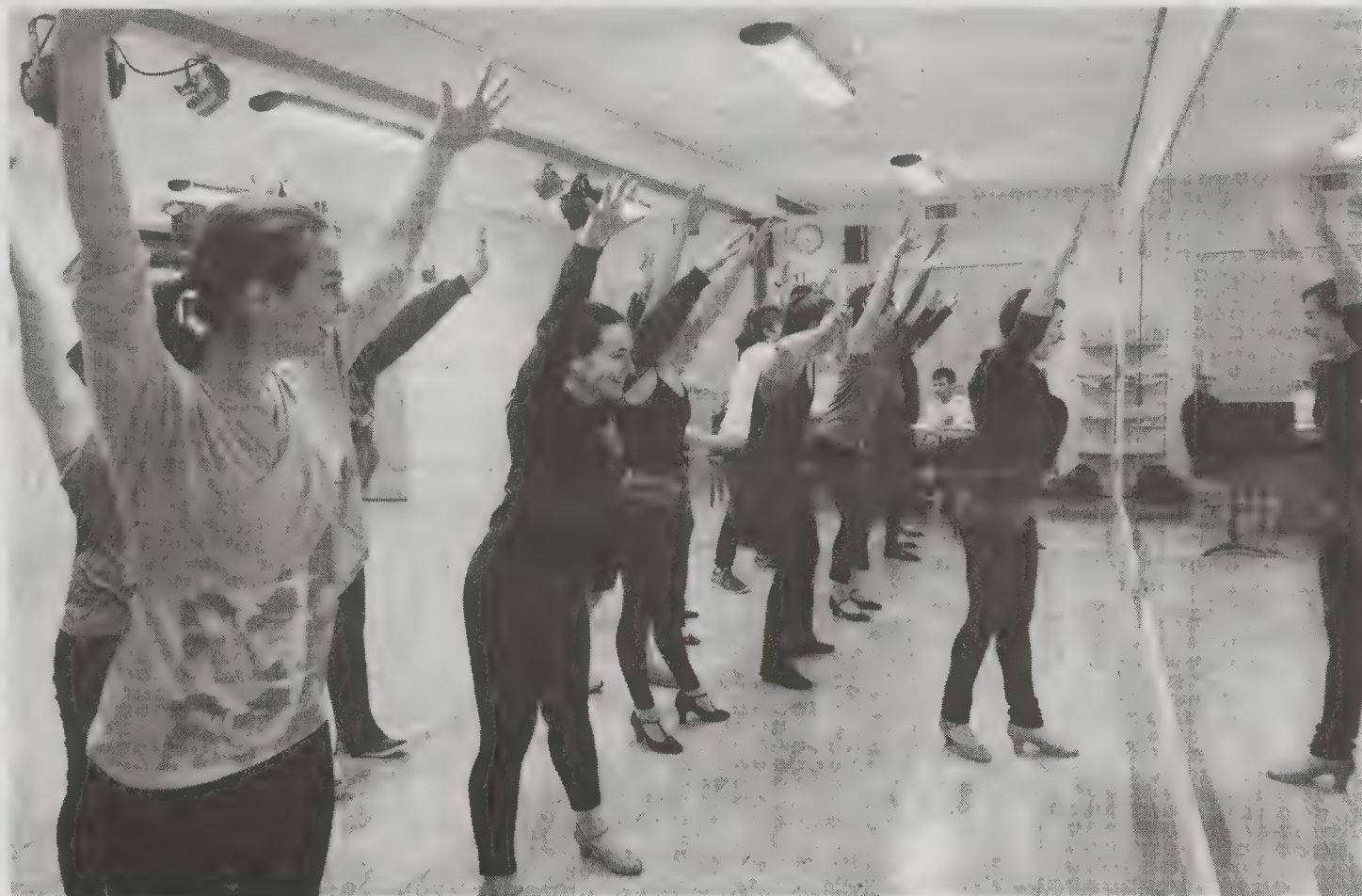
"Another cool element of the set is that we have a second level of scaffolding that will be utilized in many parts of the

show, specifically as jail cells for the 'Cell Block Tango' number," Williamson said.

Winter term musicals require an immense amount of work and effort in a very short amount of time, and *Chicago* is no exception. Though the cast learns the music ahead of time during the fall semester, they only have two and a half weeks to put together all of the stage directions, choreography and technical elements.

"The only way we get it done is to approach the work with complete professionalism," Anderson explained. "The challenge for the students is to basically convert themselves into a professional company, with two-a-day rehearsals and a complete commitment to the work."

Guarino summed up this powerful, multilayered show effectively, stating: "There's a lot of dancing, a lot of singing, a lot of popping and wow [factor] ... but beneath that bigness is a very poignant message. *Chicago* is an incredible show that does a great job of balancing spectacle and meaning."



MAX KRAUS

Choreographer Alicia Evancho works with the *Chicago* cast at the Town Hall Theater. The show will debut on Thursday, Jan. 28.

## BOOKING IT

By Abigail Walton  
Contributing Columnist

Before you all freak out about the 14-year-old protagonist in Andrew Smith's novel *Winger*, as I did, I should point out that this book is a breath of fresh air in the Young Adult section. Now, I normally stay far away from this genre, as I find the protagonists to be whiny and immature – but it is Ryan Dean West's awareness of his own whininess and immaturity that makes this book so hilarious. *Winger* is a great piece of writing, and I particularly recommend it for people who have gotten out of the habit of recreational reading in college, but want something light to read before bed. The chapters are short, allowing you to pick up the story and put it

down whenever you have free time.

Protagonist Ryan attends Pine Mountain Boarding School, where he earned his nickname "Winger" by playing wing for the rugby team. Having skipped two grades, he is a 14-year-old genius in his junior year of secondary education. Ryan

### WINGER

is no teacher's pet, however: his attempt to hack into a faculty member's phone landed him in the O-hall, the dorm for rule breakers on campus.

We are introduced to Ryan as he struggles against the bullies from the rival football team, partakes in late-night drunk escapades and attempts to win the love of his best friend, Annie. The problem, however, is that Annie is 16 – and, as Ryan tells us repeatedly in his candid narration (29 times, by my count), he is a loser.

Smith expertly portrays the torture and excitement of a first crush, building up the tension so well that I could not resist skipping ahead in the book to see if they ended up together. Smith makes Ryan utterly appealing – we want Annie to adore Ryan Dean as much as he adores her.

This is Smith's sixth Young Adult novel, and his funniest book by far. Like most adolescent boys, Ryan has a weakness for rambling and absurdly long hyphenated modifiers; for instance, he describes the rival football players' way of speaking as "a very creepy Greek-chorus-in-a-tragedy-that-you-know-is-not-going-to-end-well-

for-our-hero kind of way." I had tears of laughter in my eyes at one point (hint: check out page 316).

**This is Smith's sixth Young Adult novel, and his funniest book by far. Ryan has a weakness for rambling and absurdly long hyphenated modifiers.**

The comedic tone that dominates *Winger* makes for an easy and enjoyable read. I must warn you, however, that the humour eventually descends into an extremely dark plot twist. Though I wish Smith had explored this tragedy more – it only receives a couple of pages of attention – the impact is strong nevertheless. The ending deepens the narrative, transforming the mood of the entire book. If you are looking for a story that will make you laugh and cry, *Winger* is perfect for you.

## DON'T MISS THIS

### Health Quartet

Just two years ago, the Heath Quartet became the first ensemble in 15 years to win the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society's Young Artists Award. In this recital, the Heath will play Béla Bartók's String Quartets 2, 4 and 6. Free.  
1/21, 7:30 P.M., MCA CONCERT HALL

### Catherine D'Ignazio

In this public talk, researcher, artist and software developer Catherine D'Ignazio illustrates how she uses art and technology for civil engagement. D'Ignazio has explored issues that range from geography bias in media to water quality to transgender rights. Free.  
1/19, 5:30 P.M., JOHNSON MEMORIAL BUILDING, ROOM 304

### The Look of Silence

The Hirschfeld International Film series presents Joshua Oppenheimer's Oscar-nominated *The Look of Silence*. Through Oppenheimer's footage of perpetrators of the 1965 Indonesian genocide, a family of survivors discovers how their son was murdered and his killers' identities. 1/23, 3 & 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM



# STEM Innovation Program Inspires

By Elizabeth Zhou  
Arts & Sciences Editor

What happens when you get a group of Middlebury students together and tell them to solve an important real-world problem using science? For some, this might seem like an overly daunting, if not impossible, task. But for the seven students taking part in the STEM Innovation Program this J-term, the opportunity for hands-on experience addressing relevant, everyday issues is an exciting prospect. Now entering its fourth year, the STEM Innovation Program was founded by Professor of Mathematics Frank Swenton, Professor of Biology Jeremy Ward and Professor of Physics Noah Graham. This year, the team of students includes Shougat Barua '19, Annie Cowan '18, Bennet Doherty '18, Jen Johnson '18, Aayam Poudel '18, Robert Pritchard '19 and Jonah Simon '18.

The purpose of the STEM Innovation Program is to complement the traditional curriculum. As students draw knowledge from their classes to implement a solution to a scientific or technological problem, the expectation is that this hands-on experience will enrich the relevance of the information presented in classes.

The seven students meet from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday during J-term. Over these intensive four weeks, their task is to identify a problem and design a prototype that addresses it. Graham, Swenton and Ward show up at 10 a.m. each morning for a 30-minute meeting with the group, during which they answer questions and offer feedback on their work. Near the end of J-term, as students transform their collaborative research into a prototype, professors are often called on to facilitate improvisational lab sessions. Professor Graham describes his role as an "advisor in the morning and lab assistant in the afternoon."

For the most part, the students have a great deal of autonomy, as they set their own deadlines and decide which tasks are necessary to complete. Graham noted that this is no easy feat, as it is often "demanding on stu-

dents to be the whole process – to make the assignment and then do the assignment."

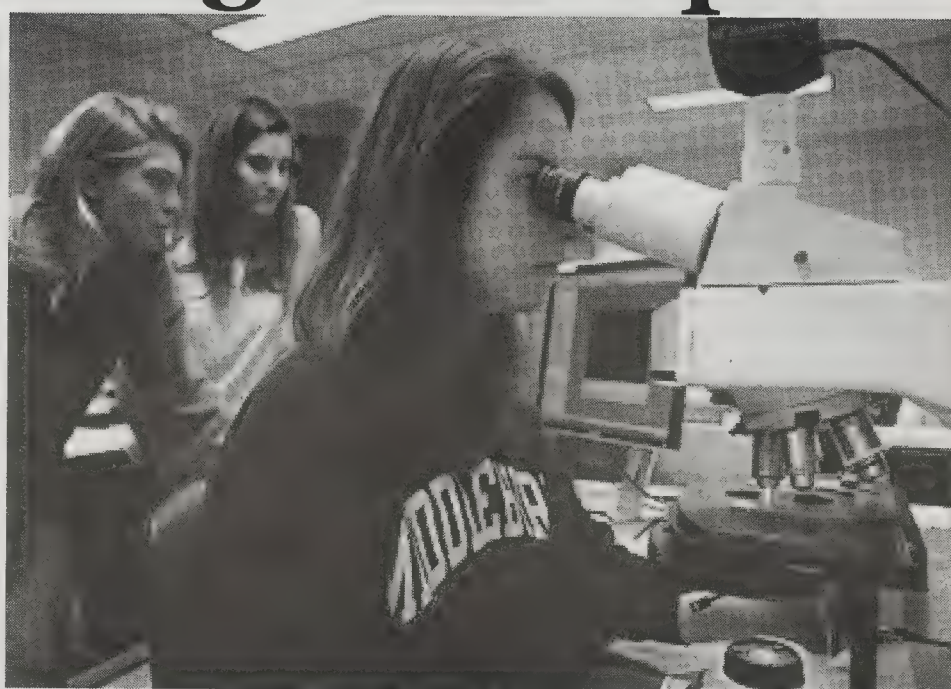
The flexibility of their day-to-day schedule lends itself a high degree of self-directed research, collaboration and experimentation. This summer, the group will reconvene for a ten-week research stint on campus to bring the prototype to life. The intensive planning that occurs during J-term will allow them to hit the ground running in June.

Each year's STEM Innovation Project is shaped by the unique interests and skill sets of the students involved. In 2013, the final product was an automated BTEX biosensor that detects aromatic hydrocarbons – benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX) – in water. In targeting these hazardous organic molecules, students used their biology and physics backgrounds to induce expression of green fluorescent protein (GFP) in the presence of BTEX compounds.

The following year, students created an aquatic surface drone boat and cyanobacteria detection system. The research vessel was put to use in nearby Lake Champlain, where harmful cyanobacteria bloom in the summer. Using remote sensing and robotics, the stu-

dents programmed the boat with a GPS to retrieve samples from certain parts of the lake. It was an interdisciplinary approach that allowed for the construction of this device: a biology major coded much of the software for the boat, demonstrating the potential of the STEM Innovation Program to foster the secondary interests of its participants.

Finally, last summer's team sought to design an early warning system of hoof disease in cattle. Traditionally, hoof trimmers use pickup trucks to lift the cow so that the hoof is easily visible; from this point, a physical examination for potential digital dermatitis is simple. However, the students wanted to create a means of detecting the disease earlier. Their efforts culminated in an infrared thermography camera that alerts a farmer of increased blood flow, and thus elevated temperature, in the cow's hoof – a marker of a foot ailment. Students visited farms in the area and experi-



TRENT CAMPBELL

Students in the STEM Innovation Program identify and address a real-world issue.

mented with various forms of basic software to build the hand-held sensor.

In designing the STEM Innovation Program, Graham, Swenton and Ward sought to grant students a breadth and depth of exploration that the standard science curriculum does not.

"The way we go about science in the traditional classroom is a necessary efficiency," Graham stated. "We present a much more linear progression; everything is in a logical structure. Fits and starts are more representative of how science actually proceeds, but it doesn't fit into a regular semester. Physics has taken four hundred years to get to where it is today; college students only have four. It would be great to follow that meandering path all the time, but it's not possible."

When the faculty began assembling their STEM team back in October, they worked to recruit a group with a diverse range of talents, so as to allow for maximum interdisciplinary collaboration.

Annie Cowan '18, a pre-med sophomore majoring in molecular biology and biochemistry, reflected on her role in the group as they work to figure out their goals and intersecting interests.

"The first week has been almost completely straight talking," she said. We're still trying to come up with our big idea. It's been a lot of sitting around and debating. I try my

best to bring people together and make compromises."

Funding for the program comes from a donor who expressed interest in supporting STEM at the College. This money has helped the team accumulate a basic toolkit of electronics to work with. The copious resources available in McCordell Bicentennial Hall have proved to be a valuable asset as well. Once, students discovered a bacteria-freezing machine that had clearly gone unused for years while hidden away in a closet. In a show of innovation, they pieced it back together, bought replacement parts and put it to great use.

It is this type of spontaneous, creative experimentation that brings such value to the STEM Innovation Program. By venturing boldly into the unknown, students gain experience with problem-solving that can be applied in traditional research labs later on.

"It's made me think more about real life issues and how I can solve them using science," computer science major Poudel '18 said.

Ultimately, the aim of the project is not publication in a journal, but rather the production of something "deliverable." Guided by a spirit of continuous discovery and interdisciplinary collaboration, the lucky seven students inducted to the STEM Innovation Project are sure to impress this year.

## Speaker on Public Distrust of Science

By Toby Aicher  
Arts & Sciences Editor

Distrust of scientific experts is widespread in the United States. It fuels the anti-vaccine, climate change denial and creationist movements, to name only a few of its most noticeable consequences. Why is there pervasive distrust, when is it justified and what can scientists do to combat it? The George Nye and Anne Walker Boardman Professor of Mental and Moral Science Heidi Grasswick explored these questions on Wednesday, Jan. 13 in a lecture titled "In Science We Trust! – Or Not? Developing a situated account of responsible trust in scientific experts."

Grasswick began by exploring a number of cases of scientific distrust. A growing number of parents in the United States have stopped vaccinating their children after a now discredited report linked the MMR vaccine to autism, despite the reassurances of the medical and scientific communities. Close to 25 percent of Americans do not believe that global warming is real.

"Scientists are often surprised or dismayed when their work is met with distrust or rejection by members of the general public," Grasswick said. "As far as they are concerned, they are engaged in the most robust form of knowledge generation available. They are the experts on their topics, and it seems to follow that non-experts should follow what they have to say. Furthermore, since sound policy making needs to be based on sound science, it's deeply worrisome that trust in science is not widespread."

However, because the scientific community sometimes makes mistakes or acts irresponsibly, distrust can be warranted.

For instance, during the Tuskegee syphilis experiment from 1932 to 1972, scientists studied the effects of untreated syphilis on hundreds of black men even after penicillin was discovered as a viable treatment. Thalidomide, a morning sickness drug, was given to tens of thousands of women during the 1950s, causing thousands of infants to be born with malformed limbs. Even the people most trusting of the scientific community often roll their eyes at trending diets and seemingly arbitrary nutrition suggestions.

"While widespread distrust in science is worrisome, what's perhaps more worrisome is that epistemologically distrust in science can be understood to be well grounded," Grasswick said. "Although scientists are rightly concerned about scientific distrust, they should be even more concerned that despite their best intentions, scientists are not always as trustworthy as they suppose. There may be times when people are too trusting. This is where my interest lies as an epistemologist."

Grasswick then made a case for developing a better understanding of responsible trust and when and why the public should trust scientific experts. She explained that ideally, trust should match the trustworthiness of the provider, and that it is important to focus on what makes a provider trustworthy.

Some scientists and philosophers believe that the solution is the information deficient model, which claims that distrust will decrease when we increase scientific literacy, either by teaching people about specific scientific issues or about the scientific method. This way, the theory goes, people have enough knowledge to judge

data and evidence and determine the trustworthiness of a source for themselves.

While Grasswick agreed that increasing scientific literacy is important, she noted that other forces are at play. Psychologists have long known about motivated reasoning, the idea that, given the same information, people with opposing ideologies will interpret data differently, searching for evidence that reaffirms their preexisting beliefs. Grasswick also pointed out that lack of knowledge does not necessarily cause distrust; rather, distrust can occur when the scientific community does not understand a group's concerns.

Grasswick placed more importance on understanding the idea of a trustworthy testimony, and defined a few components of trustworthiness.

"Someone listening to a testimony will judge whether or not the expert is competent and sincere," she said. "The sincerity requirement indicates a relationship between the speaker and the hearer, and an attitude toward the person with information. When the knowledge in question is significant to the hearer, the relationship must be more robust to support the depth and breadth of the person making themselves vulnerable."

The idea of trustworthiness being interpersonal opens up the possibility that different populations could have varying levels of distrust based on their historical

interactions with the scientific community. The experience of being marginalized or subordinated could contribute to the warranted distrust of a community. Therefore, it is the character of institutions, and not necessarily the quality of the knowledge they generate, that inspires trust from people.

Emphasizing that the purpose of her presentation was to raise important questions, Grasswick stressed that every

issue differed from one another.

"It's obvious to me that scientific literacy is not the simple solution, because trust in the information is not all that is required," Grasswick said. "More attention needs to be paid to differences in situation, and whom we are trustworthy to. We need to think about the legacy of the injustices in the history of science. And we definitely need to make sure there are no more failures of trust, or keep their numbers down because they can do huge damage. It gives us one more reason why racism and sexism and other forms of prejudice need to be eliminated from the practice of science."

**"More attention needs to be paid to differences in situation ... we need to think about the legacy of the injustices in the history of science. And we definitely need to make sure there are no more failures of trust."**

—HEIDI GRASSWICK  
PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY



# PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT

The Middlebury College Performing Arts Series is proud to engage the acclaimed Heath Quartet as its first-ever Quartet in Residence to kick off 2016. The U.K.-based ensemble will spend all of Middlebury's Winter Term on campus. Their first free concert on Jan. 14 is being proclaimed as one of the best performances to ever grace our stage. They will give another free concert on Jan. 21 and a ticketed concert on Feb. 4.

The dynamic and charismatic Heath Quartet — comprised of violinists Oliver Heath and Cerys Jones, violist Gary Pomeroy and cellist Christopher Murray — was formed in 2002 at the U.K.'s Royal Northern College of Music. The quartet has earned a reputation as one of the most exciting British chamber ensembles today. Among their many honors are a Borletti-Buitoni Special Ensemble Scholarship and the 2012 Ensemble Prize at the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. In May 2013, they became the first ensemble in 15 years to win the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society's Young Artists Award.

Performing Arts Series Director Allison Coyne Carroll knew the Heath Quartet were rising stars when she heard their U.S. debut at Middlebury in April 2014.

"What makes them special is their de-

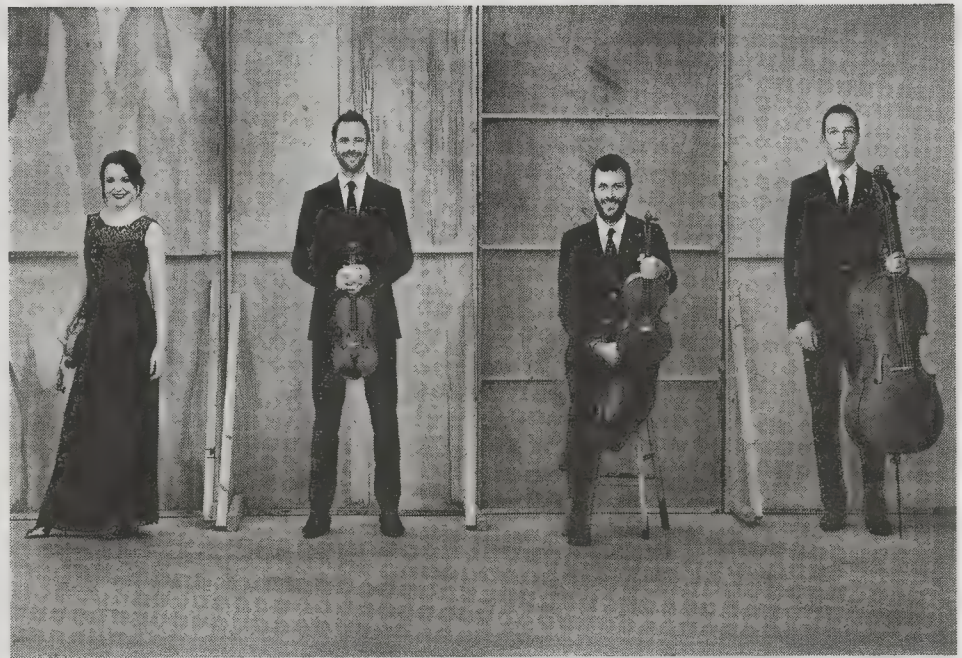
sire to express each composer's intention with great integrity — and they're able to do so with incredible skill and an impeccable sense of ensemble," Carroll stated.

The Quartet recently released their latest CD, a recording of the complete quartet cycle of British composer Michael Tippett. Their next two recordings, due out this year on the Harmonia Mundi label, will feature Tchaikovsky quartets (studio recording) and Bartók quartets (recorded live at the Wigmore Hall).

The Heath Quartet's 2015/16 season focuses heavily on the string quartets of Hungarian composer Béla Bartók. Their first two concerts at Middlebury will feature the complete Bartók cycle, performing quartets 1, 3 and 5 on Jan. 14, and quartets 2, 4 and 6 a week later on Jan. 21.

Violinist Cerys Jones reflected on the intensity of playing Bartók.

"From the moment the bow first touches the string, this music demands 100 percent commitment from every member of the quartet," Jones said. "Every moment of the music is high energy, high impact — from the depths of depression to the heights of euphoria — so it's not a challenge so much as a thrilling prospect. I think these quartets suit us as a group because they're so physically dynamic. We're often told, and



HEATH QUARTET

The Heath Quartet will hold workshops and visit local schools throughout January.

I think it's true, that we're a very physical quartet, so it feels natural to us to express this music with mind, soul and body."

The Jan. 14 and 21 concerts are offered

free of charge, thanks to generous support from the Sunderman Family Concert Endowment Fund, in memory of Dr. F. William Sunderman Jr. and Dr. Carolyn Reynolds Sunderman.

The Heath Quartet's third and final concert, on Feb. 4, will feature a mixed repertoire program including Haydn's Op. 20 No. 5, Beethoven's Op. 135 and Tchaikovsky's Quartet No. 3.

While on campus, the quartet will also engage in master classes and coaching sessions with students of all ages, including composition and electronic music students, the Middlebury College Orchestra and elementary school audiences from Weybridge, Aurora and Shoreham schools. They may even work with student members of the Performing Arts Series Society to stage "pop-up" concerts in the dining halls.

The three concerts by the Heath Quartet will take place on Thursday, Jan. 14 (free), Thursday, Jan. 21 (free) and Thursday, Feb. 4 (ticketed), all at 7:30 p.m., in the Concert Hall of the Mahaney Center for the Arts. Tickets for the third concert are \$20 for the general public; \$15 for Middlebury College faculty, staff, alumni, emeriti and other ID card holders; and \$6 for students. To purchase tickets or find more information, visit go/boxoffice or stop by either of the box offices in McCullough or the MCA.



HEATH QUARTET

Formed in 2002 at the Royal Northern College of Music, the U.K.-based group will perform the string quartets of Béla Bartók.

## FOR THE RECORD

By Devin McGrath-Conwell  
Staff Columnist

Ziggy Stardust, The Thin White Duke, Aladdin Sane, Nikola Tesla and a Goblin King. These are a mere glimpse of the faces and bodies with which David Bowie entranced the world. From the moment he fell to earth until he rocketed beyond all of us last week, he had the courage to be anyone he imagined. We all fantasize of dressing ourselves up in the essence of our dreams, and Bowie cloaked himself in his. He was the physical embodiment of that stardust that fuels dreamers everywhere, and to this stardust he has now returned.

The man, David Robert Jones, was born on Jan. 8, 1947 in Brixton, England. He learned how to play the saxophone, and had his own band by the age of 15. As he began his ascension to fame, he found that he needed to change his name to avoid confusion with Davy Jones, the lead singer of the Monkees. He chose Tom Jones, but this turned out to be equally entangling. From this, David Bowie was born, a name inspired by Jim Bowie, the American frontiersman. It is fitting that Bowie found inspiration for his name in the history of a frontiersman, for a pioneer he became.

His eponymous debut album was released in 1967. An amalgamation of genres and themes that refused to blend in with the folk rock of the day, his debut showed all the signs of a musical innovator. However, it was not until his

second album, 1969's *Space Oddity*, that Bowie went interstellar. The title track was released just days before the Apollo 11 mission launched. It was no mistake that *Space Oddity* tapped into the upward gaze of the world, embodying what may be the defining principle of Bowie's music: he constantly created a feeling that reflected, through his collection of kaleidoscopic key changes and harmonies, the transformative property of his time period.

A series of astonishing albums elevated Bowie's popularity throughout the 1970's. First came *The Man Who Sold the World* in 1970, and then 1971's *Hunky Dory*, with which Bowie scored his megahit "Changes." However, it was not until 1972 that the world truly saw what he was capable of. That year, he released *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*. Decked out in glitter and the occasional eye patch, topped with a shocking red mullet, the character Ziggy Stardust ushered in the glam rock image that would secure Bowie a spot as a certified superstar. Nonetheless, Bowie was not satisfied being stagnant, and with his next album, 1973's *Aladdin Sane*, he discarded Ziggy for Aladdin to once again find an identity eagerly waiting for him. This practice continued through everything world was privileged enough to hear.

Alongside this musical success, Bowie began playing characters on screen in earnest, with 1976's *The Man Who Fell to*

*Earth*, followed by 1978's *Just A Gigolo*. The man of so many faces was perfectly suited for movies, and so his enchanting aura entered a new medium.

In 1986, a perfect synthesis emerged in the form of Jim Henson's musical, *Labyrinth*. Bowie plays Jareth the Goblin King, who lures teenager Sarah (Jennifer Connelly) into his labyrinth by fulfilling her wish to take away her baby brother, a wish she realizes she deeply regrets. In *Labyrinth*, Bowie is given a world of puppets and fantasy to dance and sing in, crafting an equally seductive and disquieting performance that stands tall in his career.

After decades of such creative overflow, from the glam rock and funk of the 70's, to his 80's new wave and pop forays making way for electronic or-

chestrations in the 90's, it is astounding to imagine that Bowie could sustain such output, but somehow he always did.

Then, he reached 2004. It seemed that maybe the man had attained a well-deserved retirement after health problems took him out of the studio. For nearly ten years, Bowie maintained relative radio silence. Without warning, he released *The Next Day* in 2013. The album revealed a virtuosity still capable of inspiring craftsmanship, a fact supported further by the release of his 27th studio album, *Blackstar*, on January 8th, the day of his 69th birthday, and two days before he suc-

cumbed to liver cancer.

*Blackstar*, elevated by the context of Bowie's newly-revealed battle with cancer, displays a level of experimentation on par with his best. Bowie revisits the jazz influences that inspired him to first pick up his saxophone, and deepens it with a set of seven songs that embody a tone of contemplation. It opens with the nine-minute-long "Blackstar," a musical saga of discovery tied together by a branching saxophone solo. This is followed by "Tis' a Pity She's a Whore" which feeds into many of the same jazz influences in terms of instrumentation, but the song feels like it would have been right at home alongside "Changes" on *Hunky Dory*.

With the news of his death, the third song on the album, "Lazarus," becomes mesmerizing. Bowie sings of his career, his life and his musical journey. The song is moody, with soft horns and a driving drum beat, leaving plenty of space for his voice to take center stage. Equal parts pained and hopeful, the lyrics state, "Oh I'll be free / Just like a bluebird / Oh I'll be free" after reminding us that he has "scars that can't be seen."

We now know were at least a few of those scars came from, and after what must have been a painful battle, he has become as free as his bluebird. When we play his music and watch his movies, he will forever rise from the dead as Lazarus. Wherever you may be, Ziggy, give the best to Major Tom from all of us sitting down here at Ground Control.

Rest in peace, David Bowie.

### BLACKSTAR

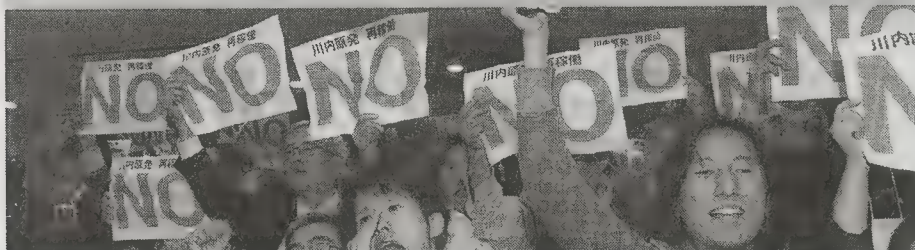
by David Bowie



ROHATYN CENTER for GLOBAL AFFAIRS presents the  
— 3rd Annual Student Global Affairs Conference —

## Power and Protest: Global Responses to Atomic Energy

— January 21-22, 2016 —



Thursday, January 21

—Keynote: Power—

McCardell Bicentennial Hall 216

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

**The Carrot or the Stick? How Do Governments Push Nuclear Power?**

Daniel Aldrich, Northeastern University

—A Nuclear Future?—

Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room

4:30 – 5:45 p.m.

**Exporting Nuclear Power to the Middle East**

Jessica Varnum, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at Monterey

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Nuclear Power: A Future after COP 21?**

Richard Wolfson, Middlebury College

—Film Screening: Nuclear Nation—

8:30 – 10:00 p.m. | Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room

go/power

Organized by Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs, Middlebury College  
Sponsored by Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs, Middlebury College, and the Middlebury College Student Government  
with support from the Rohatyn Student Advisory Board

Friday, January 22

Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies

Opportunities at MIIS

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. | Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room

—Protest—

Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.

**Music and the Japanese**

Antinuclear Movement  
Noriko Manabe, Temple University

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

**Vermont Yankee and an Insider's View of the Nuclear Industry**

Arnie Gundersen, Fairwinds Energy Education

Protest Music Workshop

with Noriko Manabe

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | Mead Chapel



## GREEN PEPPERS Restaurant

Official pizza of the Middlebury Campus

local • handcrafted • freshly prepared

(802) 388-3164



## THE Campus Voice

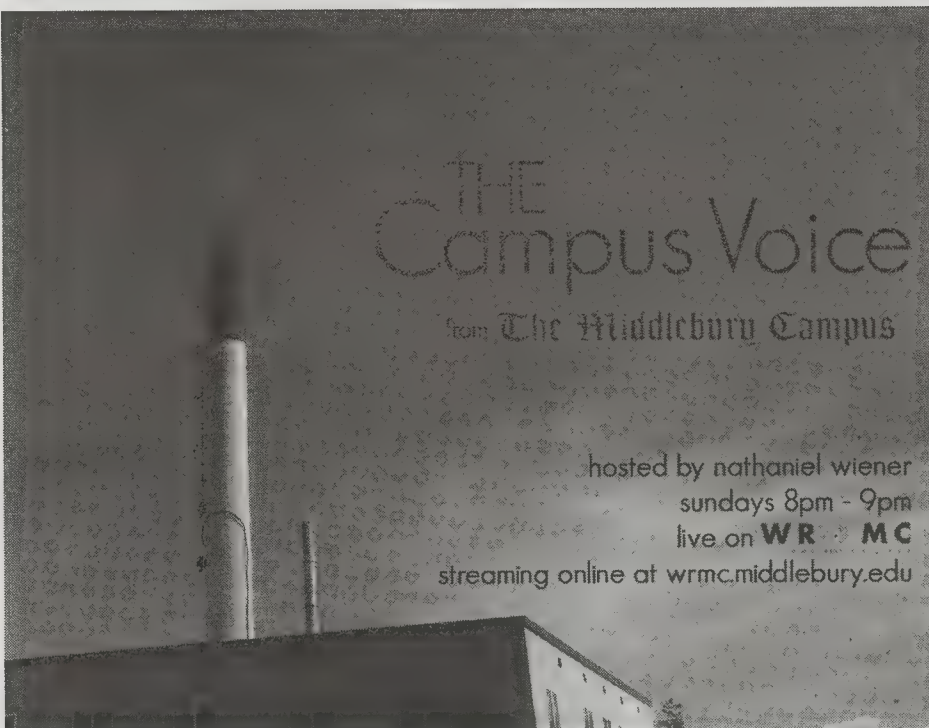
from The Middlebury Campus

hosted by nathaniel wiener

sundays 8pm - 9pm

live on WRMC

streaming online at wrmc.middlebury.edu



# Swimming & Diving Benefits from Training Trip

By Emily Bustard  
Sports Editor

Middlebury swimming and diving has been busy these past few weeks, having competed in four meets and spending the final 10 days of winter break training in Key Largo, Florida.

On Saturday, Dec. 12 the Panther men defeated Springfield 197-69, while the women suffered a close 152-148 loss to the same out-of-conference competitor. Almost a month later, the Panthers traveled to Maine for their next two NESCAC meets against Colby and Bates on Saturday, Jan. 9 and Sunday, Jan. 10, respectively. The Middlebury men's and women's teams beat Colby with respective scores of 200-93 and 214-77, but lost to Bates 183-111 (M) and 211-99 (W) the next day. Most recently, Middlebury's men and women bested Union 150-88 (M) and 140-99 (W) in a non-conference meet at the Natatorium on Saturday, Jan. 16.

The weekend before finals (Dec. 12), the men swam to their first victory of the season against Springfield (197-69), managing to touch the wall first in 12 of the meet's 14 swimming events. Will Greene '19 also won in the three and one-meter diving competitions with scores of 240.75 and 210.9, respectively.

Brendan Leech '19, Stephan Koenigsberger '16, Bryan Cheuk '16 and Paul Lagasse '16 opened the meet with a splash, swimming a 1:37.57 in the 200 medley relay to clinch first place.

The Panther men won every individual freestyle event against Springfield. Michael McGean '17 dominated the long-distance races, clocking a 4:45.61 and 9:43.60 to win the 500 and 1000 freestyles. Later, Jack Dowling '19 (1:49.78) barely bested Cheuk (1:49.88) for first place in the 200 freestyle, Lagasse notched a 22.15 in the 50 free to win first with Taylor Moore '18 just .25 seconds behind him and Jack McLaughlin '18 (48.72) edged by Lagasse (48.78) to win the 100 free.

Though Justin Cho '17 fell to Leech (55.11) in the 100 back by less than a second, he was still able to notch a victory in the 50 back (25.66). Koenigsberger was the only Panther to win a breaststroke event with his 27.23 performance in the 50 breast.

Alex Smith '18 and Cheuk won the 100 and 50 fly, respectively, with times of 55.13 and

23.86. Connor McCormick '18 also had a fast swim in the 100 fly, coming just .19 seconds behind Smith for second place.

Meanwhile, Springfield squeaked past the Middlebury women to win the meet 152-148. Nevertheless, the Lady Panthers charted seven victories and several top-three finishes during the event. Like in the men's 200 free, Middlebury's quartet of Isabel Wyer '18, Liza MacCawatt '19, Megan Griffin '16 and Morgan Burke '17 swam to a first place finish (1:49.96).

Wyer won both the 100 and 200 free with times of 53.75 and 1:55.61, respectively, while Griffin took the 50 free in just 25.39.

Sarah Bartholomae '18 took the lead to win both the 50 back (28.85) and the 100 back (1:02.19), and Grace Stimson '19 placed first in the 400 IM (4:44.23) for the first time in her Middlebury career.

The Panthers' downfall came in the final relay of the meet, when Burke, Griffin, Stephanie Andrews '18 and Wyer lost to Springfield in the 200 free relay by just 15 hundredths of a second.

The Panthers emerged from their rigorous winter break training schedule ready to start a weekend of NESCAC competition at Colby on Saturday, Jan. 9. Middlebury's men and women blew the Mules out of the water with scores of 200-93 and 214-77, respectively.

Greene and Elissa DeNunzio '18 managed to sweep the diving events on both the one and three-meter platforms, with respective scores of 232.43 and 246.37 (Greene) and 216.08 and 233.95 (DeNunzio). Sophia Allen '19 finished in second behind DeNunzio in both events as well.

Just as in the Springfield meet, at Colby "[the teams] raced in a sprint format and had a positive outcome," Head Coach Bob Rueppel said.

Middlebury opened the meet with men's and women's victories in the 200 medley relay. Leech, Pla, Dowling and Lagasse swam a 1:41.33 for the men, while the women's lineup of Bartholomae, MacCawatt, Griffin and Wyer clocked in at 1:52.38 for first place.

In a repeat of the Springfield meet, Cheuk, Cho, Koenigsberger, Leech and McLaughlin swam to first in the 50 fly, 50 back, 50 breast, 100 back and 100 free, respectively. Cheuk also claimed the 50 free title with a time of 22.57.

Like McGean on the men's side, Alaina

Pribis '19 won both the women's 500 free (5:22.50) and 1000 free (11:04.17). In fact, the Middlebury women bested Colby in all freestyle races: Burke won the 200 free (1:59.76), Andrews the 100 (56.18) and Griffin the 50 (25.92).

Butterfly was a similar story, as Griffin swam to another victory in the 50 fly (27.47) and Lily Sawyer '16 won the 100 (1:00.55). Meanwhile, Wyer claimed both the 50 and 100 back (29.19 and 1:00.29) and Stimson swam a 1:03.10 to win the 100 IM.

The Colby meet finished just as it had started, with wins in the 200 free relay by Lagasse, Leech, McLaughlin and Cheuk for the men (1:30.49), and Burke, MacCawatt, Catherine Pollack '19 and Andrews for the women (1:43.56).

The Panthers travelled south to take on Bates on Sunday, Jan. 10. The 14th-ranked Bates women beat the Panthers 201-99, while Middlebury's men's team lost 183-111.

"Bates [was a] challenge [because they were] waiting for us rested, while we returned from the training trip 32 hours [before heading] to Maine. I was extremely pleased with our preparation and demeanor that day," Rueppel said.

Middlebury finished strong in the first and longest event of the day; Andrew Rosenthal '16 swam the almost mile-long 1650 free with a time of 17:19.52 to come in second to McGean (16:28.34). For the women, Lucy Scott '16 clocked an 18:07.14 in the 1650 to place second.

McGean also won the 500 free in 4:50.21, and Rosenthal touched the wall 9.81 seconds later for third place.

Koenigsberger claimed the only other men's victory in the 200 breast (2:13.20), and got second in 100 breast (1:00.98).

Koenigsberger's was just one of the many second place finishes for the men that day; others included performances by Morgan Matsuda '19 in the 400 IM (4:23.03), Dowling in the 200 fly (2:03.93), Connor McCormick '18 in the 200 free (1:47.84), Leech in the 100 (54.59) and 200 back (2:01.42), and Cheuk in the 50 free (22.12).

Greene continued his winning streak on the diving end of things with a score of 221.15 on the one-meter platform and 219.55 on the three. Meanwhile, DeNunzio earned points for the women with her second and third-

place scores of 202.85 on the one-meter and 208.80 on the three-meter.

On the women's swim team, Burke and Bartholomae each placed second in the 50 free (25.30) and 100 back (1:01.86), respectively.

Burke swam to first in the 100 free with a 54.92-second time, and Wyer dominated both the 200 free (1:56.23) and 200 back (2:09.21).

Burke, Wyer, Griffin and Andrews helped close out the meet on a positive note for the Panthers, besting Bates with a 1:40.66 in the 200 free relay.

Finally, the Panther men and women bested the Union Dutchmen 150-88 and 140-99, respectively, at home this past Saturday, Jan. 16.

As usual, McGean claimed the 500 and 1000 free, while Lagasse won the 100 free (49.06) and Koenigsberger sprinted a 22.34 to win the 50 free. Cheuk, McLaughlin, Leech and Lagasse went on to lead the 400 free relay as well (3:16.93).

Rosenthal's 200 fly clocked in at 2:00.71 to win the event, and Middlebury's 400 medley relay team of Leech, Koenigsberger, Cheuk and Lagasse beat Union by 4.84 seconds.

Representing the women, Bartholomae, Jennifer Koide '17, Griffin and Kristin Karpowicz '19 opened the meet by winning the 400 medley relay in 4:07.79.

Angela Riggins '19 and Scott earned first in the long-distance 1000 and 500 free events with respective times of 11:17.00 and 5:20.30. Caitlin Carroll '17 and Stimson were able to win the 200 fly (2:16.19, Carroll), 400 IM (4:47.58, Stimson) and 200 breast (2:31.79, Stimson).

In the deep end of the pool, DeNunzio placed second in both the one and three-meter diving events, scoring 207.83 and 239.40, respectively. In men's diving, Greene earned third in both events with scores of 232.13 and 245.70.

After finishing first in more than half of their contested events in the last four meets, men's and women's swimming and diving each have a season record of 3-4.

Moving forward, "training will be very specific," said Rueppel, who is confident that "all will come together if [the team] competes instinctively."

The Panthers will travel to Williams this Saturday, Jan. 23 for a dual meet against the defending NESCAC champions.



# Squash Stays Busy Over Winter Break

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

country's best. Despite losing 6-3, the women's team played Brown closely. They were also without Lucy Bostwick '18, who has emerged as one of the most dependable players on the team, and a key to the Panthers' success at the bottom of the ladder.

Alexa Comai '19 continued her tremendous first-year campaign, collecting a five game win for the Panthers. Down 10-6 in the second game, Comai was in danger of falling down two games to zero for the first time all season after losing the first game 11-9. Yet Comai did not give in and registered six straight points to the second game 12-10 to the tune of loud cheers from the crowd. By the time she pushed the match to a fifth game, Comai knew she had her

opponent where she wanted.

"We were fairly evenly matched, but she was more tired than I was going into that last game," Comai said. Comai moved her opponent around the court, mixing in more and more boasts as the rubber-match went on.

"I decided that it was best to attack and that's why you saw me boast more to get her out of position," Comai said. "I tried to play with more tempo hoping she would have a harder time keeping up."

Comai won the decisive fifth game 11-8, tallying the first win of the day for the women's

squad.

Over the course of the nine day grind, the only losses the men suffered came against sixth-ranked St. Lawrence (9-0) and tenth-ranked Franklin and Marshall (6-3). Their wins over Bates, the higher ranked of the two when the Panthers travelled to Lewiston, and their win over Brown put them in a good position to try and clinch a berth in the second division.

MARK LEWIS

HEAD COACH

for the nine day whirlwind, to a lower ranked opponent for the first time all season. Ranked 15th,

*"...If I can [push them in the right ways] and if they can stay mentally focused, we still have our best squash ahead of us."*

one spot below Middlebury, Franklin and Marshall was able to knock off the Panthers last Sunday 7-2. Although the Panthers remained without Bostwick and are still trying to deal with lingering injuries, they will likely move down to 15th when the next set of rankings comes out.

"Keeping people healthy for the final stretch run and heading into national's remains a top priority," said Lewis after the Brown match. "I need to push them in the right ways so that they improve and keep up our fitness, but also avoid injuries. If I can do that and if they can stay mentally focused, we still have our best squash ahead of us."

Both teams are in action this Saturday, Jan. 23 in Williamstown, Mass. where they will take on Williams at 2 p.m.

## Women's Basketball Suffers Conference Losses

By Colby Morris  
Contributing Writer

The women's basketball team started 2016 by racking up bus mileage, travelling to New York City, Boston and Lewiston, Maine. The team left for break with a 3-1 record and have gone 6-4 since they returned. They currently stand at sixth place in the NESCAC with a 2-2 conference record.

After a 79-58 win over Salve Regina at Pepin Gym on Wednesday, Dec. 30, the Panthers opened the new year in the Big Apple for the Jan. 2-3 NYU Holiday Classic. The Panthers started hot with a 72-59 victory over Bridgewater State. First-year Catherine Harrison '19 led the Panthers with a game-high 23 points, while Sarah Kaufman '18 added 19. In their second game against the hosts and fourth-ranked NYU, Middlebury led 34-32 at the half thanks to 13 points from Sabrina Weeks '18 off of the bench. Ultimately, the Violets pulled ahead and held onto a narrow 70-62 loss.

The Panthers opened NESCAC play against Wesleyan at Pepin Gym on Tues-

day, Jan. 8. Middlebury dominated the Cardinals from the tip, jumping out to a 23-8 lead by the end of the first quarter. Kaufman once again led the charge with a career-high 31 points on the way to a pivotal 76-59 win. Harrison carried the defense with 15 rebounds to go along with her 12 points, while sophomore guard Eileen Daley '18 followed closely behind with 11 boards of her own. The Panthers faced a quick turn around to take on Connecticut College on Jan. 9, and fatigue ultimately held them back in a back and forth 66-53 loss. After falling behind early, Colleen Cavaney '19 spurred a 12-0 Panthers run to give them a 25-24 lead at the half. The score remained tight until just under six minutes to play at 47-46, but the Camels pulled away down the stretch to even the Panthers' NESCAC record at 1-1. Kaufman had a team high 17 points, while Harrison added 15 rebounds.

In a break from league action, Middlebury capitalized on a weak opponent with a 65-45 win over SUNY Postdam, holding control of the scoreboard for the whole game. Alex Huffman '19 had a ca-

reer- and game-high 16 points for the Panthers in the first of a three game road stint.

After the Jan. 12 victory over SUNY Potsdam, the Panthers took on defending league champion and 12th-ranked Tufts in Medford, Massachusetts. The Jumbos dominated the Panthers 57-37.

In a game when the Panthers needed one of their best performances of the season, they shot a dismal 21 percent from the field, 11-51, and they committed 19 turnovers, more than twice the amount the Jumbos committed.

Coach KJ Krasco called the 20 point loss "a wake-up call," as the the team will most likely return to Medford in February for the NESCAC championship.

The next day, journeying all the way to Maine, the Panthers battled Bates 43-43 going into the fourth quarter. The final ten minutes could be a defining moment of Middlebury's season, as they avoided slipping to a 1-3 conference start. The Panthers proved resilient, recovering nicely from their loss to Tufts with a 61-56 victory as they clawed their way back to .500 in the NESCAC. The victory against Bates was a

true team win, with each starter scoring at least nine points. Kaufman led the way with 11 points, seven rebounds, five assists and a steal.

In the midst of Middlebury's early January games with Elizabeth Knox '17, the team's only junior, injured, the underclassmen continued to shine. Highlights included Harrison, who continued her strong freshman campaign, earning NESCAC Player of the Week honors the week of Jan. 4 and a spot on the NYU Holiday All-Classic Team. She is averaging a double-double on the season with 13.5 points and 11.9 rebounds per game, and is shooting an impressive 53.5% from the field. After she shot just 16 percent, 2-12, in the Tufts loss, it became clear that a key going forward will be consistency from Harrison and other underclassmen. Kaufman anchors the team, averaging almost 17 points-per-game, and shooting an impressive 36.6 percent from beyond the arc.

The team will be back in action this Sunday, Jan. 24 when they travel to Williamstown, Mass. to take on the Ephs to try and climb above .500 in league play.

## THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	Plunkett's Predictions
1	MEN'S SQUASH	This team is dynamite. Expecting big things for the rest of the season.
2	ALPINE SKIING	Strong starts for both teams with a pair of fourth-place finishes in Waterville.
3	TRACK & FIELD	Props to both teams for christening Virtue Field House in winning fashion.
4	WOMEN'S SQUASH	Injuries have hurt this team recently, but I have faith.
5	SWIM & DIVE	Big wins over Union should boost morale.
6	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	Tons of ties for them this season. But they're not losses.
7	MEN'S BASKETBALL	2016 looks good on this squad as they rebound from early season losses.
8	MEN'S HOCKEY	Looking for a rebound run after a rocky start this month.

## Missed Opportunities Cost Men's Hockey

By Andrew Rigas  
Sports Editor

The men's hockey team remained in the top four of the NESCAC after going 2-4-2 since leaving for Winter break. The Panthers' record stayed even in the conference with a 1-1-2 record over that time, including a win over then fifth-ranked Amherst and an overtime loss to No. 8 Trinity.

"We have put ourselves in a perfect position to secure a home game for playoffs or even host NESCACs if we play the way we are capable of playing for our remaining conference games," Team Captain Evan Neugold '16 said. "It is in our hands, which is what you always want as a team coming down the second half of the season."

Entering their game at Hamilton on Friday, Dec. 11, the Panthers still stood undefeated in the NESCAC at 2-0-2. Middlebury jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first period on goals from Ronald Fishman '16 and Max Greenwald '16, but Hamilton scored three unanswered goals in seven minutes in the second. Travis Stephens '18 tied the game in the final period, and neither team could score in overtime as it ended in a 3-3 tie. Liam Moorfield-Yee '16 made a career high 49 saves.

The following night Middlebury travelled to face no. 5 Amherst for a battle of undefeateds in the NESCAC. Behind Stephen Klein's '18 33 saves, the Panthers shutout the Lord Jeffs 2-0, earning some redemption after losing all three matchups last season. Greenwald put the Panthers ahead a little over 13 minutes into the contest, Mark Lyman '19 added one more in the second period, and Klein did the rest as he recorded his second shutout of the season.

In their first action of the new year, the Panthers hosted the Middlebury Holiday Classic on Jan. 2-3. In their first game, the

Panthers handled SUNY Canton 6-3 as Moorfield-Yee won his first game of the year in net and Vincent Gisonti '18, Spencer Cage '19, Neugold, Jake Charles '16, Brendan McGovern '16, and Zach Haggerty '16 all scored goals.

Middlebury faced Neumann in the championship the next day. All of the scoring occurred in the second period, and, after building a two goal lead, the Knights held off the Panthers for a 2-1 victory. Down 2-0, Stephens put the Panthers on the scoreboard by carrying the puck the length of the ice and slinging a wrist shot below the crossbar. Middlebury outshot Neumann 20-9 in the period and 48-29 in the game, but could not beat the Knight netminder and tournament MVP Tyler LeFebvre more than once.

"We need to be able to finish and put the puck in the back of the net when it counts," Neugold said. "Those one goal games were all great games, unfortunately the other teams finished their chances and we didn't."

The Panthers returned to action the following weekend when they travelled to Wesleyan on Jan. 9. Matt Doherty '19 drove home a shot from just inside the blue line to put the Panthers ahead in the first period. Mike Najjar '17 made it 2-0 early in the third period off a rebound. After Wesleyan tied it up, Neugold swatted a rebound out of midair and into the back of the net to put Middlebury ahead again. Just 1:33 later, Wesleyan knotted the game at three, and the game ended that way, 3-3—even as the Panthers outshot their opponent again (33-24).

The next day, Middlebury stayed in Connecticut to face off with no. 8 Trinity. The Panthers drew first blood 2:31 into the game when Najjar slotted one beneath the crossbar. Trinity responded a little over five minutes later to tie the game, but Kamil Tkaczuk '19 notched his first career goal and gave the Panthers a 2-1 lead after the first

period. Trinity tied the game over halfway through the second period, and that score held through the rest of regulation. However, with twenty seconds left in regulation, Stephens earned a trip to the box for charging, leaving the Panthers a man down for 1:40 in overtime. On the power play, the Bantams tallied the game-winner 58 seconds into the overtime period, giving the Panthers their first NESCAC loss—the third game in a row they outshot their opponent (36-23) but failed to win.

The Panthers' next two games did not get any easier as they faced No. 11 Norwich on Tuesday, Jan. 12 and No. 4 Plattsburgh St. on Friday, Jan. 15. Against Norwich, Haggerty put Middlebury ahead 4:05 into the first period, but Norwich responded with a power play goal to tie the game later in the first. The Cadets took the lead early in the second period which they quickly followed with a shorthanded goal, but Neugold added one for the Panthers to make it 3-2. Norwich extended their lead to three with two power play goals, one in the second period and one in the third. Charles netted an unassisted goal, but that was it for the Panthers as they lost 5-3.

Neither Middlebury nor Plattsburgh St. could find the back of the net in the first third of action on Friday, but Plattsburgh's Michael Radisa scored twice in the second period to cripple the Panthers. The Cardinals added an insurance goal and skated away with a 3-0 win.

"We played very well in all 3 games. Just a couple of mistakes cost us," Neugold said. "We know we can compete with the best teams."

Sitting at 4-6-4 overall, Middlebury returns to the ice this upcoming weekend when they travel to Maine to play at Colby and Bowdoin Jan. 22-23, as they look to snap the three game losing streak.



# Men's Basketball Successful in New Year

By Joe MacDonald  
Sports Editor

The men's basketball team has played its best basketball of the season since the calendar turned to 2016 and, after a recent week-end sweep, are in the hunt for a home playoff game in NESCACs with a 3-1 conference record and 9-7 mark overall.

Middlebury ended its 2015 schedule with a blowout over usually tough Plattsburgh State. To begin the new year, the Panthers fell on the road against a tough Endicott team on Jan. 2, but since then have gone 4-1 and established themselves as contenders in the NESCAC. The highlights have come against last year's NESCAC Champion Wesleyan, No. 18 Tufts and a Bates squad that the Panthers had not beaten in three years. In defeating Tufts and Bates, Matt St. Amour '17 was named NESCAC Player of the Week by averaging 17.0 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. Middlebury also took down in-state opponent Southern Vermont on Jan. 4.

The Panthers opened NESCAC play with an 86-76 road win over Wesleyan University. The Cardinals entered last season's NESCAC tournament as the No. 6 seed, but went on an incredible run and won the tournament. After their postseason success, Wesleyan was expected to compete once again for a NESCAC title. A year ago, Middlebury's 97-60 beatdown of the Cardinals in Pepin Gymnasium seemed to galvanize Wesleyan on their championship run. This time around, the Panthers 86-76 victory over Wesleyan on Friday, Jan. 8 seems to have initiated the Cardinals' recent struggles.

Wesleyan took a 14-2 lead less than five minutes into the game. At that time, Head Coach Jeff Brown brought all three of his first-years into the game and sparked a Panther comeback. Hilal Dahleh '19, Zach Baines '19 and Eric McCord '19 combined for 24 points and 12 boards off of the bench.

The Panthers began the second half down 37-30 but quickly tied the game at 39 and went back and forth with the Cardinals for most of the second half. With 6:40 left in the game, Wesleyan stretched the lead to five, but that was as large as the lead would get as Middlebury began to chip away. An 11-3

Panthers run sparked by a pair of Jack Daly '18 free throws that put the nail in the coffin of the Cardinals. A 22-25 performance from the charity stripe helped finish off Wesleyan and seal the 10-point victory, an anomalous performance for the team with the worst free throw percentage in the NESCAC.

"(Free throw shooting) was huge in our Wesleyan win, at Wesleyan," Coach Brown said. "But it is a weakness of our team right now, just getting to the line and consistently making one-and-ones."

After taking down the Cardinals, the Panthers were favored to best the Connecticut College Camels the following afternoon, but the upstart Camels surprised Middlebury with an 82-81 win. Despite perennially being at the bottom of the NESCAC, Conn. College has played the Panthers tough the last two seasons, losing by a combined seven points. This time around, the Camels finally got by the Panthers.

Once again, Middlebury started slow, falling behind 21-13 less than halfway through the first half. The Camels ran their lead all the way to 16 points with 4:08 to go in the half and went into the break up by eight.

St. Amour made a bevy of three-pointers early in the second in an attempt to bring the Panthers back into it and, with 59 seconds remaining, led 81-80. With 16 seconds remaining, Conn College Point Guard Tyler Rowe scored the deciding bucket on a runner, and the Panthers were unable to respond on the other end, sealing their fate.

With almost an entire week off to prepare for a home weekend, Middlebury was ready for the nationally-ranked Tufts Jumbos on Friday, Jan. 15 and just outlasted the visitors 85-82 in a thrilling overtime game. With top big man Matt Daley '16 out with a foot injury, Middlebury had its work cut out for it. Tufts boasts arguably the best post player and second-best scorer in the league in junior center Tom Palleschi and sophomore point guard Vinny Pace. The Jumbos were bit by the injury bug, as well, as senior guard Ryan Spadaford - averaging 11.9 points per game - had to sit out with an ankle injury.

Jack Daly '18 did a great job slowing down the lethal Pace in the first half, holding the

sophomore to seven points on 2-5 shooting. Without Daley, McCord, Nick Tarantino '18 and Adisa Majors '18 were asked to fill the void and did so admirably. Coach Brown rotated the trio of young big men frequently to keep them fresh, and their tenacity paid off on the defensive end. Tarantino snagged nine rebounds in as many minutes, and all three did well to stymie Palleschi.

"The biggest thing (without Matt Daley)," Coach Brown said, "is that we were looking to double team Palleschi inside ... and just not allowing him to work one-on-one."

Also on the defensive end, the long and athletic Baines introduced himself to the Middlebury faithful with a pin against the backboard on a Vinny Pace layup attempt midway through the second half.

"(Zach Baines) is an elite talent athletically, and a piece of that is his wingspan," Coach Brown said. "He's got the wingspan of a seven-footer."

The game was incredibly balanced throughout as neither team lead by more than eight and both squads performed comparably in nearly every statistic. At halftime they were knotted up at 40 apiece, and a block by McCord prevented a three-point attempt from Pace at the end of regulation, sending the game into OT.

St. Amour put the team on his back in the extra period, scoring nine of the team's 13 points. The Jumbos would not go quietly, though, and relied on their stars in the final period. Pace scored five points and Palleschi made a three-pointer, and Tufts had a chance to tie on the final possession. Pace had the ball beyond the arc but passed up a contested shot attempt to a wide open Stephen Haladyna in the left corner. Haladyna's shot looked good but it ended up slightly right of the mark, clanged off the rim, and bounced away, clinching an 85-82 victory for the Panthers.

Riding high off of this upset, Middlebury stormed into Pepin the next day, took the lead a little over halfway through the first half, and got the best of a pesky Bates team. Bates has frustrated the Panthers recently. A year ago, a gastrointestinal infection decimated the Panthers roster on the day of the

game against Bates, and still Middlebury battled to a four-point loss. Two years ago, since-graduated Graham Safford of Bates drilled a game-winning three from straight-away in Pepin to finish off the Panthers. The previous year's game was a three-point win for Middlebury. On this Saturday, though, the Panthers got their revenge by defeating the Bobcats 73-61.

Still without Daley, Coach Brown leaned on a similar strategy as the night before, relying on a revolving door in the front court against Bates' Delpeche twins who each stand over 6'6," and on Daly to shut down the opponent's top scorer, senior Mike Boornazian.

"We wanted to double team some in the post because of the Delpeche teams," Coach Brown said, "who really have a lot of length and athleticism, but again I thought Jack (Daly) did a terrific job on Boornazian. He really made (Boornazian's) offense really tough to come by."

On the offensive end, St. Amour was his usual self, canning three three-pointers en route to 17 points while Daly and Jake Brown '17 combined for 11 assists. Majors tallied 10 points off of the bench.

The Panthers remain at home this week-end and will welcome the currently 11-5 Williams College Ephs, who pummeled the Panthers last season, 87-62.

## BY THE NUMB3RS

**91** Age of Dixon Hemphill '49, who competed in the alumni one-mile run before Saturday's Middlebury Winter Classic.

Career wins at Middlebury for men's basketball head coach Jeff Brown.

**300**

**111** Points separating the men's indoor track and field team and the second-place finisher, Springfield.

Combined number of matches played by the Middlebury men's and women's squash teams so far in 2016.

**14**

**31** Steals recorded this season by men's basketball player Matt St. Amour '17, who leads the NESCAC in the category.

## Indoor Track Wins Inaugural Meet in Virtue

By Rob Erickson  
Staff Writer

The indoor competition season is now in full swing for the Panther track and field teams after the school hosted the inaugural Middlebury Winter Classic, the first such event held in the new Virtue Field House since its opening in January 2015. Before a packed house that included numerous alumni of the program, as well as the usual crowd of parents and spectators, the meet ran very smoothly for the Panthers. The men dusted the competition with a total of 260 points, 111 better than second-place Springfield, while the women scored a resounding victory of their own, racking up 257.5 points, 41 ahead of Springfield, who came in second once again.

The weekend before that, Middlebury had sent a small contingent of runners who had been able to find practice facilities over the winter break to the Dartmouth Relays in Hanover, NH. Head Coach Martin Beatty '84 had only positive things to say: "The group did very well. The Dartmouth meet has Division I athletes, so it is always fun to go against that level. At this point in the season, the performances were where they should be, or even a little bit better."

For the Panthers, the instant celebrities of the event were the four members of the winning 4x200 relay team — Jeremy Carter '17, Brandon Cushman '16, Paul Malloy '18, and Alex Nichols '17 — who came in first overall with a time of 1:35.23 (1.58 seconds ahead of the second-place team). "The 4x200 win at Dartmouth was totally unexpected," said Cushman, also a captain of this year's squad. "A lot of our faster 200-meter guys were still away on break for the race, so the quartet was made up of mostly 400-meter runners looking to get some speed work in.

We were surprised to be placed in the fast heat to begin with ... So you can imagine our surprise when we crossed the line in first." When the dust had settled after all the events, the men tied for 8th out of 16 teams while the women snagged eighth out of 19 competing schools.

Still, the elation following the Dartmouth Relays was overshadowed by the buzz generated by this past weekend's home meet. Before the main events got underway, Coach Beatty decided to let some of the alumni get the first crack at the new surface as thanks for their continued support. "Supportive alumni made this indoor track event happen," he noted. "In that spirit, I felt that it would be fitting to invite the alumni to run in the very first running races. They didn't have such a facility, so I wanted them to feel proud of it — it's theirs as well."

Current members of the team were equally excited by the inaugural event that, according to Cushman, had been a long time coming. "Saturday was an incredible experience," he said. "Hosting the first home meet on the track meant a lot to everyone on the team. The seniors were especially excited because we have seen this project through from the beginning, moving from the old bubble into Nelson and finally into the new field house. The alumni only made the day even better. It made you feel the team was more than just the athletes that are here."

The Panthers found success across the board on their home turf, picking up victories in a total of seventeen events. Of those, the men won nine: the 200-meter dash (Nichols at 23.15), the 400-meter dash (Jimmy Martinez '19 at 50.60), the 1,000-meter run (Andrew Michelson '19 at 2:40.7), the 1-mile run (Kevin Serrao '18 at 4:26.38), the 3,000-meter run (Brian Rich '17 at 8:59.14),

the 60-meter hurdles (Tyler Farrell '18 at 8.76), the 4x400 relay (Farrell, Nichols, Cushman and Martinez at 3:29.76), the pole vault (John Natalone '19 at 14'5.25") and the shot put (Daniel Plunkett '16 at 46'2.75").

The women came away with eight victories of their own, including a school record in the 500-meter dash set by Lucy Lang '19 (1:17.55). The other wins were as follows: the 400-meter dash (Alexandra Morris '16 at 58.00), the 800-meter run (Isabella Alfaro '18 at 2:26.02), the 1000-meter run (Robin Vincent '18 at 3:05.40), the 1-mile run (Vincent again at 5:13.33), the 3,000-meter run (Adrian Walsh '18 at 10:25.83), the 4x400 relay (Morris, Lang, Paige Fernandez '17 and Halle Gustafson '16 at 4:04.97) and

the pole vault (Kreager Taber '19 at 10'6").

At the end of the day, Cushman felt good about the team coming out of the meet. "It's hard to get a good impression from the team as a whole this early in the season because Saturday was the first meet for a majority of the team," he conceded. "But I'm really pleased with how well our team competed during the meet. To my knowledge, there weren't many people who were disappointed in their performances, which starts the season off on a really good note." The Panthers will look to continue their success at Saturday's Smith Invitational in Northampton, Mass. before they come back for another home meet, the Middlebury Invitational, on Jan. 29 and 30.



ELIJAH VANVANKENBURG

Members of the men's indoor track and field team compete in the inaugural Middlebury Winter Classic, the first meet to be held in the the College's new Virtue Field House.



# Women's Hockey Hands Lake Forest First Loss

By Ethan Brady  
Features Editor

The Middlebury women's hockey team skated to three wins, two ties and two losses over winter break, bringing their overall record to 7-3-3 and placing them at third in the NESCAC, behind first-ranked Amherst and second-ranked Williams.

Middlebury's tense first matchup against Castleton on Saturday, Dec. 12, driven into overtime by a late Castleton goal with three and a half seconds left in the third period, marked the second loss of the season. Kelly Sherman '17 placed her third goal of the year to give Middlebury the early lead 3:50 into the first period, and the Panthers went unanswered for the rest of the period. In the second, Maddie Winslow '18 made two quick attempts at goals but was denied by Spartan netminder Jess Cameron.

Middlebury took a 2-0 lead on the power play at 9:51 with a rebound shot by Anna Van Kula '16. But with just 28 seconds left in the second, Castleton struck back to make it a one-goal game. The Spartans dominated the third period, with goalie Cameron blocking a formidable shot by Janka Hlinka '18 on a three-on-none break. With Cameron pulled in favor of an extra attacker, the Spartans tied the game with seconds remaining, forcing overtime. Only 1:53 into the extra session, Castleton went on the power play, and with an innocent shot at 3:18 that slipped past Middlebury goalie Julia Neuburger '18, took home the win.

After a break from NCAA play, the women's squad returned on Tuesday, Jan. 5 to host a formidable Lake Forest team in Chip Kenyon '85 Arena, where the Panthers handed Lake Forest their first loss of the season in a spectacular showing of grit. Lake Forest entered the game with the nation's top power play — at 41 percent — and was only one of four teams without a loss.

Ten minutes into the first period, alternate captain Katie Mandigo '16 placed a loose puck into the slot to give Middlebury an early lead. Netminder Neuburger blocked three attempts by the Foresters in the final five minutes of the period. But 2:34 into the second, the Foresters answered.

The deciding goal of the game came 7:57 into the third, when Van Kula placed her third shot of the season off the rebound. The Panthers tried to bolster their lead on three power plays in the final eight minutes — including a five-on-three — but Lake Forest netminder Allie Carter

did not falter. The Foresters pulled Carter with 49 seconds left and sent two aggressive attempts to the slot, but a blocked shot by Winslow and a crucial save by Neuburger preserved a Panthers' victory.

"Beating Lake Forest was a good start for us coming back after break," Van Kula said. "We played well for a full 60 minutes and were able to hand them their first loss of the season."

The Panthers returned to NESCAC play on Jan. 8 for a two-game matchup in Amherst, Mass., against Amherst. A scoreless first period came and went, but early in the second Winslow redirected an attempt from Shanna Hickman '19 to score her team-leading fourth of the season. Winslow was named NESCAC player of the week earlier in the season.

The Lord Jeffs were quick to answer just a minute later, as Katelyn Pantera led a power play drive to the Panther slot. And later, Sara Culhane finished a valiant drive from Amherst after a Panther turnover turned into a three-on-one play, giving Amherst a 2-1 lead. Early in the third, though, Allie Aiello '17 scored her first goal of the season to force overtime and ultimately to secure a tie after a scoreless extra session.

A day later, the two squads returned to the ice, hoping to secure a win in the series but tying again, this time with a 3-3 score. Late in the second period, Jessica Young '18 placed the first point on the board after intercepting a pass from an Amherst defender in the offensive zone and firing a point-blank shot. Just a minute later, Jocelyn Hunyadi responded for the Lord Jeffs on the power play.

The third period was high-scoring as Amherst scored two goals in the first nine minutes, one of which came when Erin Martin won a faceoff in her defensive end, skated the full length of the ice, and sent the puck past Neuburger. Trailing 1-3, Middlebury staged a comeback with shots by Victoria Laven '17 and Elizabeth Wulf '18. The Panthers put six shots on the Amherst frame in the overtime period, including hitting the pipe in the final minute, but neither team scored leading to the 3-3 tie.

In Plattsburgh, N.Y., on Jan. 12, Middlebury suffered a 3-0 loss against top-ranked Plattsburgh State (13-0). Melissa Sheeran converted on a rebound of an initial Erin Brand slapshot from the point to give Plattsburgh State a 1-0 advantage 1:07 into the second period. Brand would be on the receiving end of another primary assist to give Plattsburgh a 2-0 edge at 11:27 of the same period. Brand took a slapshot from the



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Middlebury women's ice hockey forward Anna Van Kula '16 handles the puck in the team's 5-0 victory over Endicott on Saturday, Jan. 16 in Chip Kenyon Arena.

point that bounced off Panther goaltender Neuburger over her shoulder and into the crease where Kayla Meneghin knocked it in. Capitalizing on an empty Panther net, Kayla Meneghin scored her second of the game coming via the empty netter with 10 seconds left in regulation to seal a tough, but expected, loss for Middlebury.

Coming off the loss, the Panthers hosted Utica on Jan. 15 in Kenyon Arena and posted a 2-1 win with a strong debut by the freshman squad. Rachael St. Clair '19 and Katarina Shuchuk '19 each scored their first career goals and Kiana Verplancke '19 made 25 saves for her initial collegiate victory. The Panthers made two early scoring bids in the first period on two power plays, but Utica goalie Amanda Lupo blocked both shots.

The Utica Pioneers took their turn on the power play midway through the period, with Elizabeth Dohner placing a rebound into the top corner of the Panther net. But the Panthers pulled even late in the period, when St. Clair collected a rebound on a shot by Katherine Jackson '19 and tied the game at 1-1.

Middlebury scored the game-winning goal at the 17:08 mark of second, when Jenna Marotta '19 directed a shot on goal, which was tipped in by Shuchuk to give the Panthers an unanswered 2-1 lead. Utica twice pulled the goalie in the final 1:09 to get the equalizer, but the Panthers held strong to prevent the Pioneers from setting anything up.

"We have a very young team this year but have seen lots of improvement since

we started in November," Van Kula said.

Bolstered by the victory, the women's squad returned to Kenyon Arena to crush Endicott College 5-0. The Panthers were aggressive in the first period, and Winslow made the first goal on the power play for her fifth of the season.

Middlebury broke through for three goals in the middle period, one each by Jackson, St. Clair and Haley LaFontaine '18. The goal was LaFontaine's first as a Panther.

A breakout pass created a two-on-one advantage for the Panthers as Winslow set up Jackson for her second of the game and a 4-0 lead (14:33). Young netted the final goal 5:00 into the third period, bringing the score to 5-0.

"The team is working hard to improve on a daily basis," Head Coach Bill Mandigo said. "We have had three good weeks of practice and have played some very good teams. We played well against Lake Forest and Plattsburgh, but only came away with the victory against Lake Forest. Different players are having an impact and I have been very impressed with our freshmen."

Van Kula is excited for NESCAC play, stating "we have had a good start to the new year and are looking to build on that in our upcoming NESCAC games."

The Panthers (3-0-3 in conference) will host a two-game homestand this weekend against the Bowdoin Polar Bears (3-3), beginning Friday at 7 p.m. and ending Saturday at 3 p.m., and then will face the Hamilton Continentals (2-2-2) in Clinton, N.Y., on Jan. 29 and 30.

## EDITORS' PICKS



ANDREW RIGAS (24-15, .615)



REMO PLUNKETT (42-35, .545)



ALEX MORRIS (81-78, .509)



EMILY BUSTARD (51-58, .468)



WILL CASE (0-0, .000)

**Men's Squash: Will the 16th-ranked Panthers defeat 14th-ranked Williams on Saturday?**

NO

In my research, I couldn't even find the last team Midd has beaten Williams in men's squash.

YES

The fellas on the squash team are looking sharp recently.

YES

I love a good upset.

YES

Going with the gut on this one.

YES

Williams is tough. We are tougher.

**Women's Hockey: Will they stay undefeated in-conference against Bowdoin tomorrow night at home?**

YES

Coming off a 5-0 win should provide the Panthers with solid momentum.

YES

These ladies are up for it.

YES

Joe, why did you leave?? Now I'm in danger of being in last place.

YES

Home ice? I'm taking Midd.

**Men's Hockey: Can the men's hockey team steal a victory Saturday at Bowdoin?**

YES

Midd was winning 4-1 last time and ended up tying. They'll do better this time around.

YES

They'll steal it, give it back, then steal it again.

NO

I envision a tie for this one.

YES

Don't try too hard on these, Will.

YES

They'll find the net in this one.

**Pats (-3)-Broncos: Who wins Sunday in the last Brady-Manning Championship game?**

BRONCOS

Although who says it will be the last?

PATRIOTS

PATRIOTS

I'll stick to my non-ball sport.

PATRIOTS

Because I always pick the Patriots.

PATRIOTS

Looks like Kyle Orton has been under center for the Broncos recently...



# Fresh Start

The Panther men's basketball team has found its stride in 2016, recording a 3-1 conference record after a 5-5 start in out-of-conference play. The team picked up a pair of victories over Wesleyan and Bates on either side of besting Tufts at home in an overtime thriller. See page 18 for full coverage.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

## Inspired Play Fuels Squash Team's Success

By Will Case  
Sports Editor

The first few weeks of the New Year have been busy for the men's and women's squash teams, as both played over half of their schedules in nine days from Jan. 8 through Jan. 17. The trip to Maine before the end of winter break and a pair of 8-1 wins over Amherst this past Tuesday, Jan. 12 were highlights for both teams. Last Saturday's matchups with Brown were nail-biters for both teams. The 16th-ranked men's squad defeated 15th-ranked Brown 5-4, and the 14th-ranked women's squad fell 6-3 to a strong 11th-ranked Brown team.

The men's 5-4 triumph over Brown on Saturday will likely see them move into the 15th spot in the CSA standings. At the beginning of the year, one of the team goals was to finish in the second division after winning five of the last eight Summers' Cups awarded to the top finisher in the third division. The team needs to be ranked 16th or higher to qualify for the second division.

David Cromwell '16 and Wyatt French '17 continued their strong seasons in the Panthers' victory over the Bears, but Will Kurth '18's gutsy victory over Charlie Blasberg was the difference maker in the 5-4 victory.

Kurth jumped on Blasberg in the first game, outpacing his opponent and forcing Blasberg to run up and down the court. Kurth extended several rallies and hit high quality low shots right above the tin that kept

Blasberg on his toes. Although Kurth still looked like the stronger of the two, Blasberg won the second game as unforced errors cost Kurth. Kurth was not far off though, as a few of his errors came within an eyelash of missing the tin.

Kurth gave the crowd their money's worth in games three and four, winning both 12-10. Kurth won the deciding fourth game by scoring on a shot he beautifully hit to the back of the right wall, just out of Blasberg's reach, forcing a bad return which earned Kurth the victory.

"I definitely didn't want to have to go to a fifth game," said an exhausted Kurth. "I tried to control the pace and be speedy to wear him down. Both of us were exhausted."

Kurth described his strategy, "like a game of chess." He said that in the final two games, he felt he was getting to the ball and hitting it to the right place at the right pace. "It was frustrating because he was getting to all of my shots. In the end I decided there was no reason not to go for it. After a while, when I had the chance, I mixed it up and slid in some no look shots to throw him off."

In the second slot on the ladder, Cromwell was able to finish off his opponent in four games.

"I concentrated on hitting better quality shots than him," Cromwell after the match said.

In the deciding fourth game, Cromwell won the first point with a brilliant shot that caromed at the base of the back wall just under the racquet of

his opponent. After a serve from the left box that was hit above the boundary line, Cromwell showed no signs of letting the rare mistake affect his focus. On the subsequent rally, Cromwell and his opponent exchanged shots on the left wall until Cromwell forced him to the back so he could deliver a perfect low shot to the front left corner. Similar to what Kurth said about his Brown performance, Cromwell won the point like it was a game of chess against an outmatched opponent.

Over the course of the match, Cromwell seemed to know what his opponent was going to do next. When asked if the two had played each other in the past, Cromwell at first said no. Then he remembered, "Well, I played him once at a squash camp a long time ago. He was way better than me then."

Coach Mark Lewis described the effort Cromwell has put in since the end of last season as "inspiring." "He really puts in the work. He wants it. If there is something that needs to be fixed, or if we want him to address a specific part of his game, he works tirelessly on it," Lewis said. Cromwell played most of last season in the eighth slot, but his efforts have precipitated his rise to the second spot on the ladder where he has won six of 11 matches this season.

Although the women's team did not earn a victory, Lewis said, "I have no problem with us walking away today 1-1," as both of Brown's teams are among the

SEE SQUASH, PAGE 17

## PANTHER SKI TEAM PLACES FOURTH AT BATES CARNIVAL

By Nicole Roos  
Staff Writer

Nordic skier Kelsey Phinney '16 picked up her first career win on Saturday, Jan. 16 as the nordic and alpine teams combined for a 4th place finish in the opening carnival of the season. Alpine events took place at Sunday River, while the nordic teams competed at the Quarry Road Recreational Area in Waterville.

The alpine team opened with a strong performance in Friday's Giant Slalom, placing four racers in the top 12.

"Usually the first carnival of the year is a little slow for us, but that was probably the best we've done in an opening race in at least five years," Head Alpine Coach Stever Bartlett said. "Now we are looking to continue that momentum for the upcoming carnivals."

Rob Cone '17 led the group, finishing fourth overall. Riley Plant '18 had the second-fastest time in the second run to finish in sixth overall, while Colin Hayes '17 rounded out the scoring with an 11th place finish. Just behind Hayes with a 12th-place effort was Christopher McKenna '17.

The women's alpine team was led by Caroline Bartlett '19, who finished seventh in her first career carnival. Lexi Calcagni '19 placed next for Middlebury, coming in 15th overall. Rounding out the scorers was Katy Greene '17, who finished in 20th. Both Elle Gilbert '16 and Captain Linley Shaw '17 were unable to finish their first runs.

On the Nordic side, Phinney began her strong performance over the weekend in Friday's 1.5K-sprint race. She had the fastest qualifying time in the women's race, beating the field by nearly five seconds, before finishing second overall. Nicolette Amber '16 aided the team effort finishing in 14th overall, while sophomore Katie Feldman '18 came

in 41st. On the men's side, Patrick McElravey '17 paced the team, placing 12th in the men's classic sprints. Two spots behind in 14th place was Evan Weinman '18, while first-year Zeb Millslage '19 rounded out the scorers in 58th place.

Saturday's 5K Nordic race was highlighted by Phinney's win, where she beat out the rest of the field by a significant margin of seven seconds.

"I had great momentum going into Saturday's race after finishing second on Friday," Phinney said. "I felt pretty confident going into the start that if I skied my best possible race I could win ... my teammates ended up telling me I had won and that was just an amazing feeling."

On the men's side, McElravey earned a top-10 finish in the 10K free, placing ninth overall. The scoring was rounded out with two Panthers claiming back-to-back spots, as first-year Lewis Nottontson '19 finished in 30th and Weinman crossed the finish line just seconds later for a 31st place finish.

The alpine team struggled a bit more in Saturday's slalom race, with three men failing to finish their second run. Despite the setback, they were still able to place three finishers in the top-17. Cone paced the group for the second time that weekend, finishing in fifth place overall. Hayes concluded the weekend with a strong ninth place finish, while Captain Christoph Niederhauser '16 crossed the finish line in 17th. On the women's side, only Greene cracked the top 20 in 17th place, while Calcagni and Shaw rounded out the team in 35th and 36th places, respectively.

The Panthers concluded the carnival in fourth place out of 17. Both teams return to action this weekend in the carnival hosted by Colby College. Alpine events will take place at Sugarloaf Mountain, while the Nordic team will return to the Quarry Road Recreational Area in Waterville.

INSIDE  
SPORTS



INDOOR TRACK'S  
FIRST MEET IN THE  
NEW VIRTUE FIELD  
HOUSE  
PAGE 18



WOMEN'S HOCKEY  
SNAGS A PAIR OF  
TIES AT AMHERST  
PAGE 19